

6.389A.183



No. G. 389 A. 183

*The Public Library of the City of Boston.*



*James Comerford.*







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Villanies  
DISCOVERED BY  
Lanthorne and Candle-light, and  
the helpe of a new Cryer called  
*O Per se O.*

*Being an addition to the Bel-mans se-  
cond night-walke: and laying open to the world  
of those abuses, which the Bel-man (because  
he went i<sup>th</sup> darke) could not see.*

With Canting Songs, and other new conceits  
*never before Printed.*

Newly corected and enlarged by the Author.

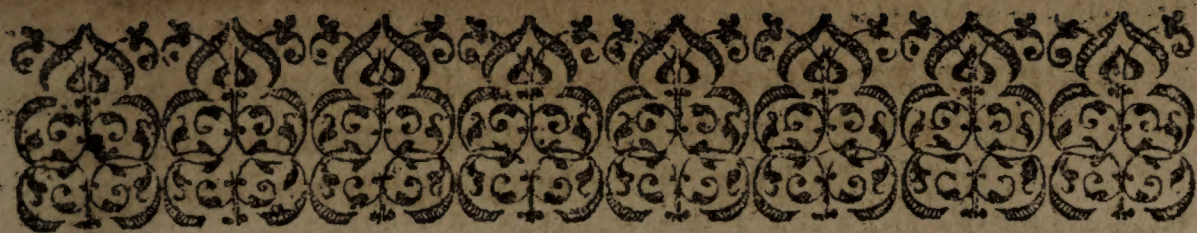




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# THE BELMANS SECOND NIGHTS

W A L K E.

*With his O per se O.*

## CHAP. I.



I was Terme-time in Hell (for you must vnderstand, a Lawyer lines there as well as heere :) by which meanes Don Lucifer being the Justice for that Countie, (where the Brimstone mines are) had better doings and more rapping at his gates, then all the Doctors and Empericall Quacke-saluers of ten Cities haue at theirs in a great Plague-time.

The Hall where these Termeres were to try their causes, was very large and strongly built, but it had one fault, it was so hot that people could not endure to walke there : Yet to walke there they were compelled, by reason they were drawn thither vpon occasions, and such iustling there was of one another, that it would haue grieved any man to be in the thrōgs amongst them. Nothing could be heard but noise, and nothing of that noise be vnderstood, but that it was a sound, as of men in a Kingdome, when on a suddaine it is in an vprize. Euery one babbled with him that he walked with or if he did but tell his tale to his Councell, he was so eager in the very deliverie of that tale, that you would haue sworn he did babble : and such gnashing of teeth there was when Aduersaries met

A description of the hall where matters are tried in Hell.



together, that the sylling of ten thousand Dawes cannot yeld a sound more horrible. The Judge of the Court had a diuelish countenance, and as cruell he was in punishing those that were condemned by Law, as he was crabbed in his looks, whilst he sate to heare their tryals.

But albeit there was no pitie to be expected at his hands, yet was he so byright in Justice, that none could euer fasten bribe vpon him, for he was ready and willing to heare the cryes of all comers. Neither durst any Pleader (at the infernall Barre) or any officer of the Court, exact any Fee of Plaintiffes, and such as complained of wrongs and were oppressed: but onely they paid that were the wrong doers, those would they see dauid ere they should get out of their fingers, such fellows they were appoynted to bere at the very soule.

The customes and condition of the Court

The matters that here were put in sute, were more then could be byed in twenty Vacations, yet should a man be dispatched out of hand. In one terme he had his Judgement, for here they neuer stand vpon Returnes, but presently come to Triall. The causes decided here are many; the Clients that complaine many; the Counsellors (that plead till they be hoarse,) many; the Attournies (that run by and downe,) infinite; the Clarkes of the Court, not to be numbered. All these haue their hands full; day and night are they so plagued with the bawling of Clients, that they neuer can rest.

The Inke wherewith they write, is the blood of Controversers: they haue no paper, but all things are engrossed in Parchment, and that Parchment is made of Scriveners skinnies slayed off, after they haue beene punished for Forgerye: their Standishes are the Seals of Usurers: their Pens, the bones of unconscionable Brokers, & hard harted Creditors, that haue made Dice of other mens bones, or else of perjur'd Executors and blind Ouer-seers, that haue eaten by Widowes and Orphants to the bare bones, and those Pens are made of purpose without Rebs, because they may cast Incke but slowly, in mockerie of those, who in their life time were slow in yelding drops of pitie.

What matters are tryed before the Iudges

Could you know what actions are tried here? I will but turne ouer the Records, and read them vnto you as they hang vpon the Jyle.



Whereunto is added *O per se O.*

The Courtier is sued heere, and condemned for Ryots.

The Souldier is sued heere, and condemned for Murders.

The Scholler is sued heere, and condemned for Heresies.

The Citizen is sued heere, & condemned for the Citi-sinnes: their viues for Pride, and Seruants for Stealth.

The Farmer is Tued heere vpon Venal Statutes, and condemned for spoyling the Markets.

Actions of batterie are brought against Swaggerers, and heere they are bound to the Peace.

Actions of Waste are brought against Drunkards and Epicures, and heere they are condemned to begge at the Grate for one drop of colde water to coole their tongues, or one crum of bread to stay their hunger, yet are they denied it.

Harlots haue procelle sued vpon them heere, and are condemned to Howling, to Rottemesse and to Stench. No Acts of Parliament that haue passed the Upper house can be broken, Heauen. but heere the breach is punished, and that severely, and that suddenly: For heere they stand vpon no demurres; no Audita Quærela can heere be gotten, no writs of Errors to reuerse Iudgement: heere is no flying to a Court of Chancerie for reliefe, yet euery one that comes hither is serued with a Sub-pæna. So, they deale altogether in this Court vpon the Habeas Corpus, vpon the Capias, vpon the Ne exeat Regnum, vpon Rebellion, vpon heauie Fines (but no Recoueries) vpon writs of Out-lary, to attache the body for euer; and last of all vpon Executions after Iudgement, which being serued vpon a man is his euerlasting vndoing.

Such are the Customes and courses of proceedings in the Offices belonging to the Prince of Darknesse. These hote doings hath he in his Terme-times. But vpon a day when a great matter was to bee tryed betweene an Englishman and a Dutchman, which of the two were the fowlest Drinkers, and the case being long time in arguing, by reason that strong euidence came in reeling on both sides, (yet it was thought that the English-man would carry it away, and cast the Dutchman) on a sodaine all was staide by the sound of a horne that was heard at the lower end of the Hall. And euery one looking backe (as wondring at the



## The Bel-mans night walkes.

strangenesse) come, come, was cryed and made through the thickest of the crowd, for a certaine Spirit, in the likenesse of a Poste, who made way on a little leane Pag by to the Bench where iudge Radamant with his two grim Brothers (Minos and Eacus) sate. This Spirit was intelligencer sent by Belzebub of Barathrum, into some Countries of Christendom to lye there as a spie, & had brought with him a packet of letters from severall Leigiers that lay in those Countries, for the seruice of the Tartarian, their Lord and Master. which packet being opened, all the Letters (because they concerned the generall good and state of those low Countries in Hell) were publiely read. The contents of that Letter that stoung most, and put them al out of their Law cases, tended to this purpose

### *A Letter against the Bel-man.*

**T**hat whereas the Lord of the fierte Lakes had his Ministers in all Kingdomes aboue the earth, whose Offices were not onely to win the subiects of other Princes to his obedience, but also to giue notice when any of his owne sworne household or any other that held league with him should reuolt or flie from their allegiance: also discouer from time to time all plots, conspiracies, machinations, or underminings, that should be laid (albeit they that durst lay them should dig deepe enough) to blow vp his great infernal Cities so that if his horned Regiment were not sudainely mustred together, and did not lustily bestirre their clouen stumps, his territories would be shaken, his dominions left in time vnepeopled, his forces looked into, and his authoritie which he held in the world, contemned and laughed to scorn. The reason was, that a certaine fellow: The Childe of Darknesse, a common Night-walker, a man that had no man to wayte vpon him but onely a Dog, one that was a disordered person, and at midnight would beate at mens doores, bidding them (in meere mockerie) to looke to their candles, when they themselues were in their dead sleepes: and albeit he was an Officer, yet he was but of light carriage, being knowne by the name of the Bel-man of London, had of late not onely drawne a number of the Devils owne kindred into question for their liues, but had also, onely, by the helpe of the Lanthorne and Candle lookt into the secrets of the best



Whercunto is added *O per se O.*

trades that are taught in Hell, laying them open to the broad eye of the world, making them infamous, odious, and ridiculous: yea, and not satisfied with doing this wrong to his diuellship, very spitefully hath he set them out in print, drawing their pictures so to the life, that now a horse-stealer shall not shew his head, but a halter with the hang mans noose is ready to be fastned about it: A Forst nor a Ship shall not walke into a Fayre or a Play-house but every cracke will cry, looke to your purses: nor a poore common Rogue come to a mans doore, but he shall be examined if he can Cant. If this Waulking fellow therefore haue not his mouth stop'd, the light Angels that are coyned below, will neuer be able to passe as they haue done, but be wayled by for counterfeits. Hell will haue no doings, and the Deuill be no body

This was the lpyning of the Letter, and this Letter draue them all to a Non-plus, because they knew not how to answer it. But at last aduice was taken, the Court brake by, the Tearme was adiourn'd (by reason that the Hel-hounds were thus plagu'd) and a common counsell in hell, was presently called how to redresse these abuses.

The Sathanicall Sinagogue being set, by starts the Father of Hell and Damnation, and looking verry terribly, with a paire of eyes, that stared as wide as the Mouth gapes at Bishops gate, fetching foure or fve deepe sighes (which were nothing else but the Smoke of fire and Brimstone boyling in his stomacke, and shewed as if he were taking Tobacco, which he often times does) told his children and seruants (and the rest of the Citizens that dwelt within the freedom of Hell, and sat there before him vpon narrow low fornes) that they neuer had moze cause to lay their heads together, and to grow politicians. Hee and they all knew that from the corners of the earth some did every houre in a day creepe forth, to come and serue him: yea, that many thousands were so bewitched with his fauours, and his rare parts, that they would come running quicke to him: his dominions (he said) were great, and full of people, Emperours, and Kings, (in infinite number) were his slaues, his Court was full of princes, if the world were deuided (as some report) but into three



## The *Bel-man*s night-walkes,

parts; two of those three were his; or if (as others affirme) into foure parts, almost three of that foure hee had firme footing in.

But if such a fellow as a treble boye'd Belman, should bee suffered with his night-rimes to pry into the infernall Mysteries, and into those blacke Acts which command the spirits of the Deepe, and hauing sucked what knowledge he can from them, to turne it all into popson, & to spit it in the very faces of the professors, with a malicious intent to make them appeare ugly, and so to grow hatefull & out of fauour with the world; if such a Conturor at midnight should dance in their circles, and not be drinen out of them, Hell in a few peeres would not be worth the dwelling in. The great Lord of Limbo did therefore command all his blacke guard that stood about him, to besirre them in their places, & to defend the court wherein they liued: threatening (besides) that his curse, and all the plagues of stinking hell should fall vpon his officers, seruants & subjects, vnesse they eyther aduis'd him how, or take some speedy order themselves to punish that saucie intelligencer, the Belman of London. Thus he spake and then sate downe.

At last, a foolish Diuell rose vp, and shot the bolt of his aduice, which flew thus farre: That the Blacke-Dogge of New-gate should againe be let loose, and a farre off follow the Bauling Bel-man, to watch into what places he went, and what deeds of darkenesse (euery night) he did. Hinc risus. The whole Synodicall assembly fell a langhing at this wiseacre, so that neyther hee, nor his blacke Dogge durst bark any more.

Another, thinking to cleaue the very pinne with his arrow, drew it home to the head of wisdom (as he imagined) and yet that lighted wide too. But thus shot his Counsell, that the Ghosts of all those Theeues, Cheaters, and others of that damned crew, (who by the Bel-mans discouerie, had beene betrayed, were taken and sent west-ward) should bee fetched from those fields of horror, where euery night they walke, disputing with Doctor Story, who keeps them company there in his corner Cap: and that those wry neckt spirits should haue charge giuen them to haunt the Bel man in



his walkes, and so fright him out of his wits. This Diuell  
for all his roaring went away neither with a Plaudite, nor  
with a hiffe. Others slept vp, some pronouncing one verdict,  
some another. But at the last, it being put into their diuelish  
heads, that they had no power over him further then what  
should be giuen vnto them, it was concluded & set downe as a  
rule in Court, that some one strange Spirit, who could trans-  
port himselfe into all shapes, should be sent vp to London, and  
scorning to take reuenge vpon so meane a person as a Bel-  
ringer, should thrust himselfe into such companies (as in a war-  
rant to be signed for that purpose) should be nominated, & be-  
ing once growne familiar with them, he was to worke & win  
them by all possible meanes to fight vnder the dismall & black  
colours of the Grand Sophy (his Lord & Master) the fruite  
that was to grow vpon this tree of euill, would be great, for  
it should be fit to be serued vp to Don Lucifers Table, as a  
new banqueting Dish, sithence all other meates, (though  
they fasted him well) were growne stale.

Hereupon Pamerfiell the Messenger was called, a Passport  
was drawne, signed and deliuered to him, with certaine in-  
structions how to carry himselfe in his trauell. And thus  
much was openly spoken to him by word of mouth.

Flie Pamerfiel with speed to the great and populous Citie  
in the west: Winde thy selfe into all shapes: bee a Dogge (to  
saloue,) a Dragon (to confound) be a Dove (seeme innocent)  
be a Diuell (as thou art,) and shew that thou art a Horn-  
man to hell. Build rather thy nest amongst Willowes that  
bend euery way, then on tops of Oakes, whose heads are hard  
to be broken: Flie with the Swallow, close to the earth, when  
troures are at hand, but keepe company with Birds of greater  
talents, when the weather is cleere, and neuer leaue them  
till they looke like Ravens: creepe into bosomes that are but-  
toned vp in Sattin, and there spread the wings of thine in-  
fection: make euery head thy pillow to leane vpon, or vse it  
like a Mill onely to grind mischief. If thou meetest a Dutch-  
man, drinke with him: if a Frenchman, stab: if a Spaniard, be-  
tray: if an Italian, poison: if an Irishman, flatter: if an Eng-  
lishman, doe all this.



Haunt Taverns, there thou shalt find Whodigals : pay thy two pence to a Player, in his Gallerie mayest thou sit by a Harlot ; at Ordinaries mayst thou dine with such fooles : When the day steales out of the world, thou shalt meete rich Drunkards vnder welled gownes, search for threescore in the hundred, hugge those golden villaines, they shine bright, and will make a good show in hell, strike with a cricket in the Brew-house, and watch how they conure there : Ride vp and downe Smithfield, and play the Jade there : Visite Prisons, and teach Taylors how to make nets of Iron there ; bind thy selfe to the best trades : but if thou canst, grow extreame rich in a very short time (honestly) ; I bannish thee my Kingdome, come no more into hell, I haue red thee a lecture, follow it, farewell.

So sooner was farewell spoken, but the spirit to whome all these matters were giuen in charge, banished : the clouen footed Orator arose, and the whole assembly went about their damnable businesse.

### Gul-groping.

#### CHAP. II.

How Gentlemen are cheated at Ordinaries.

**T**he Diuels foote-man was very nimble of his heeles for no wilde Irish man could out runne him, and therefore in a few heures was he come by to London : the miles betweene Hell and any place vpon earth, being shorter then those betwæne London and Saint Albones, to any man that trauels from hence thither, or to any Lacky that comes from thence heither, on the deuils errands : but to any other poore soule, that dwels in those Low countries, they are neuer at an end, and by him are not possible to be measured.

So sooner was he entred into the Citie, but he met with one of his Maisters daughters, called Pride, dressed like a Merchants wife, who taking acquaintance of him, and vnderstanding for what he came, told him, that the first thing hee was to doe, he must put himselfe in good cloathes, such as were sutable to the fashion of the time, for that here, men were look'd vpon onely for their outsides : hee that had not  
ten



Whereunto is added *O per se O.*

ten-pounds worth of wares in his shop, would carry twentie markes on his backe: that there were a number of sumpter-horses in the citie, who cared not how coarsely they sed, so they might weare gay trappings: yea, that some piewd fooles, to put on Satin and Veluet but foure daies in the yeere, did often times vndoe themselves, wines, and children euer after. The spirit of the Diuels Buttery hearing this, made a legge to Pride for her counsell, and knowing by his owne experience that euery Tailor hath his hell to himselfe, vnder his Shop-board, (where he damnes new Sattin) amongst them he thought to finde best welcome, and therefore into Birchin-lane he stalkes very mannerly, Pride going along with him, and taking the vpper land.

So sooner was he entred into the ranks of the Linnen Prichin-  
Armorers, (whose weapons are Spanish needles) but hee Lane de-  
was most terribly and sharpely set vpon, euery prentise boy scribed.  
had a pull at him: he feared they all had beene Sericants, be- Tailors as  
cause they all had him by the backe: neuer was poore diuell first were  
so tormented in hell as he was amongst them: he thought if called  
had beene Saint Thomas his day, and that he had beene cal- Linnen-  
led vpon to be Constable, there was such bauling in his eares, A more.  
and no strength could shake them off, but that they must shew Sericants.  
him some suites of apparell, because they saw what Gentle-  
woman was in his company (whom they all know.) Seeing  
no remedy, into a shop he goes, was fitted brauely, and bea-  
ring the price, found the lowest to be vnrasonable, yet paide  
it and departed, none of them (by reason of their crowding a-  
bout him before) perceiuing what custcer they had met with;  
but now the Taylor spying the diuell, suffered him to goe,  
neuer praying that he would knowe the shop another time,  
but looking round about his warehouse if nothing were mis-  
sing, at length he found that he had lost his conscience: yet re-  
membzing himselfe, that they who deale with the diuell, can  
hardly keepe it, he stood vpon it the lesse.

*The fashions of an Ordinarie.*

**T**he Stigian traoueller being thus translated into an ac-  
complished Gallant, with all acoutrements belonging  
(as a feather for his head, gilt rapier for his sides and new  
bootes to hide his nolt foote for in Bedlam hee met with a



## The *Bel-mans* night walkes.

Shoemaker, a mad slave, that knewe the length of his last) it rested, onely that now he was to enter vpon company suitable to his cloathes : and knowing that your most selected Gallants are the onely table-men that are plaid with ail at Ordinaries, into an Ordinarie did hee most gentleman-like, conuay himselfe in state.

It seemed that all who came thither, had clockes in their bellies, for they all stricke into the dnyning roome much about the very minute of feeding. Our Cavalier had all the eyes (that came in) throwne vpon him, (as being a stranger, for no Ambassadoz from the Diuell ener dined amongst them before) and he as much tooke speciall notice of them. In obseruing of whom and of the place, he found, that an Ordinarie was the onely Randenouz for the most ingenious, most terse, most trauals, and most phantastick gallant : the very Exchange for newes out of all countries : the onely Bookesellers shop for conference of the best Editions, that if a woman (to be a Lady) would cast away her selfe vpon a Knight, there a man should heare a Catalogue of most of the richest London widowes : and last, that it was a schoole where they were all fellowes of one forme, and that a country Gentleman was of as great cunning as the proudest iustice that sate there on the bench aboue him : for hee that had the graine of the table with his trencher, paid no more then hee that placed himselfe beneath the salt. Here he heard fooles prate, perceiu'd knaues colleit, and beheld wisemen dumbe.

The Diuels intelligencer could not be contented to fill his eye onely with these objects, and to feede his belly with delicate cheere : but hee drew a larger picture of all that were there, and in these colours.

The holder hauing cleared the table, Cards and Dice (for the last Waste) are serued vp to the boord: they that are full of coine draw: they that haue litle, stand by and giue ayme : they shuffle and cut on one side: the bones rattle on the other : long haue they not plaide, but eathes flie vp and downe the roome like haile-shot : if the poore dumbe Dice be but a little out of square, the pox and a thousand plagues breake their neckes out at window: presently after, the foure knaues are sent packing: the same hour, the same place, the same company, are condemned to



Whereunto is added *O per se O.*

In this batt le of Cards and Dice, are severall Regiments  
and severall Officers.

They that sit downe to play, are at first cald Leaders.

They that loose are the Forlorne Hope.

He that wins all, is the Eagle.

He that stands by and Ventures, is the Wood-pecker.

The fresh Gallant that is fetcht in is The Gul.

He that stands by and lends, is the Gulgroper or Impost-  
taker.

*The Gul-groper.*

**T**his Gul-groper, is commonly an old Money-monger,  
who having trauaild through all the follies of the world  
in his youth knowes them well, and thunders them in his age  
his whole felicitie being to fill his bags with gold and silver:  
he comes to an Ordinarie, to saue charges of housekeeping, &  
will eate for his two shillings, more meat then will serue  
three of the Guard at a dinner, yet sweares he comes thither  
onely for the company, & to conuerse with travellers. It is a  
Gold-Finch that seldome flies to these Ordinarie Fests, with  
out a hundred or two hundred pound in twenty shilling peeces  
about him. After the tearing of some seven paire of Cards, or  
the damning of some ten baile of Dice, steps he vpon the stage,  
and this part he playes, If any of the Forlorne Hope be a  
Gentleman of Beanes, either in Esse, or in Posse, (and that the  
old Foxe will be sure to know to halfe an Acre) whose money  
runnes at a low ebbe, as may appeare by his scratching of the  
head, and walking vp and downe the roome, as if he wanted  
an Ostler: The Gul-groper takes him to a side window and  
tels him, he is sorrie to see his hard lucke, but the Dice are  
made of womens bones, and will cozen any man, yet for his  
Fathers sake (whom he hath knowne so long) if it please him  
hee shall not leaue off play for a hundred pound or two. If  
my young Estrich gape to swallow downe this mettall (as  
for the most part they are very greedy, hauing such pzonan-  
der set befoze them) then is the gold powdered on the board, a  
Bond is made for a repayment, at the next quarter day,  
when Exhibition is sent in: and because it is all gold, and  
cost so much the changing, the Scriuener (who is a whelue



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of the old *Wastives* above breeding) knowes what words will bite, which thus he fastens vpon him, and in this net the Gull is sure to be taken (howsoeuer:) for if he fall to play againe, and loose the hoary Goat-bearded Watyre that stands at his elbow, slaughts in his sleeue: if his bags bee foreconered of their falling-sicknes, that they be able presently to repay the borrowed gold, then Monsieur Gul-groper scales away of purpose to auoide the receipt of it he hath faster Chickens in hatching: it is a fairer marke he shootes at. For the day being come when the bond growes due, the within named Signior Anaro, will not be within: or if he be at home, he hath wedges enough in his pate; to cause the bond to be broken: or else a little before the day; he credes my young Maister with sweet words, that surfetting vpon his protestations, he neglects his parent, as presuming he may doe more. But the Law hauing a hand in the forfeiture of the Bond, laies presently hold of our young Gallant with the helpe of a couple of Sericants; and iust at such a time when old Erra Pater (the Jew) that lent him the money, knowes by his alone Prognostication, that the Deane with the siluer face is with him in the waire. Nothing then can free him out of the phangs of these blood hounds, but he must presently confesse a iudgement, for so much money, or for such a Manor or Lordship (three times worth the bond forfeited) to be paid, or to be entered vpon by him: by such a day, or within so many moneths after he comes to his land. And thus are young heires couzending of their Acres, before they well know where they lie.

### *The Wood-pecker.*

**T**he Wood-pecker is a Bird that sits vpon a perch too: but is nothing so dangerous, as this Vulture spoken of before. He deales altogether vpon Riches, (as men do that take three for one, at their coming backe from Jerusalem, &c.) for hauing a Jewell, a Clock, a Ring with a Diamond or any such like commodity, he notes him well that commonly is best acquainted with the Dice, and hath euer good lucke: to him he offers his prize, rating it at ten or fifteen pound, when happily it is not worth above six, & for it he bargaines to receive 5. Shillings or ten Shillings (according as it is in value).



Whereunto is added *O per se* O.

at euery hand, second, third, or fourth hand hee drawes: *Which* meanes he perhaps in a short time, makes t<sup>hat</sup> yeake him forty or fifty pound, which cost not halfe t<sup>wo</sup>enty. Many of these Merchant venturers saile from Ordinary to Ordinary being sure alwaies to make sauing voyages, when they that put in ten times moze th<sup>an</sup> they, are for the most part losers.

*The Gall.*

**N**OW if either The Leaders, or The forlorne Hope, or any of the rest, chance to heare of a young Fresh-water Souldier that neuer before followed these strange wars, and yet hath a charge newly giuen him (by the olde fellow Soldado Vecchio his father, when death had shut him into the Graue) of some ten or twelue thousand in ready money, besides so many hundzeds a yeere: first are Scouts sent out to discouer his Lodging: that knowne, some lie in ambush to note what Apothecaries shop hee resorts too euery morning, or in what Tobacco-shop in Fleetstreet he takes a pipe of Smoake in the afternoone: that Fort which the Pump holds, is sure to be beleaguere by the whole troope of the olde weather beaten Gallants: amongst whom some one, whose wit is thought to be of a better blocke for his head, than the rest, is appointed to single out our Nouice, & after some foure or five daies spent in complement, our heire to seuen hundzed a yeere is drawne to an Ordinarie, into which hee no sooner enters, but al the old ones in that Pest Sutter about him, embrace, protest, kisse the hand, Conge to the very garter, & in the end (to shew that he is no smal foole, but that he knowes his father left him not so much mony for nothing,) the young Tub suffers himselfe to be drawne to the stake: to flesh him, Fortune & the Dice (or rather the false Dice, that couzen fortune, and make a foole of him too) shall so fauour him, that he marches away from a battaile or two the swely winner. But afterwards, let him play how warily so ever hee can, the damned Dice shall crosse him, and his silver crosses shall blesse those that play against him: for euery they that seeing dearest to his bosome, shall first be ready, & be the foremost to enter with the other Leaders into conspiracie, how to make spoile of his golden bags. By such ransacking of Citizens



## The *Bel-man*: night-walkes,

For ones wealth, the Leaders maintaine themselves brane,  
the Forlorne Hope, that droped befoze doth now gallantly  
come on. The Eagle feathers his nest, the Woodpecker picks  
by his crumes, the Gul-groper growes fat with good feed-  
ing: and the Gul himself, at whome euery one has a Pull,  
hath in the end scarce feathers enough to keepe his owne  
backe warme.

To these there is another to be added no lesse pernicious  
then any and indeed somewhat more in the Diuels fauour,  
by as much as the Deceite is commonly couered with the  
greatest persons, and this is the Imposter or Impostaker, this  
fellow is euer of the greatest eminence, and as an Atlas sup-  
ports the Ordinary on his shoulders; he lookes for no fauor  
from heauen, for he will vse no curtesie on earth, ciuell speech  
he accounts the fooles Language, and rudnesse he loues more  
then meat, drinke or humanitie, he cares not on whome hee  
spits, whose Cloake he teares with his Spurs, nor whose  
name he dirties with foule reproches, this Signior Glorius  
being (as it were the *Cozygido* of the Ordinary, as soon as  
the young Gul is false amongst these Rauens, after he hath  
abused him some fve or sixe times, and made other fooles  
bould to doe him the like iniurie, seeing he hath posselt him  
with a feare of his humors and admiration of his valour, pre-  
sently he falls into an insinuation with the young Gul, and  
from a Tyrant becomes a flatterer, no man then shall dare  
to doe the Gul disgrace but he is his Champion, he defends  
his carpage; makes his folly wisdom, his cowardise discre-  
tion, his impudence audarcitie, his vnnanerlinesse courtly e-  
ducation, and all his simplisitie a most amptable forme of  
outlandish behauiour, so that the poore Gul proud of his in-  
timate hioes himselfe vnder this Eagles wing, and thinkes  
there is no heauen but that, to which his friendship beares  
him. As soon as the Imposter perceiues this, presently he a-  
nimates the Gul to al coursses, of vntwistynesie, especially to  
game, as to *Primer*, *Gleeke*, or the like, in which he digni-  
fies his cunning so much that the Gul thinkes himselfe a gra-  
duate ere he know A, B, C, in the Diuels horn-booke, then  
to make him more haliant in his owne budging: this Impost-



Wherunto is added *O per se* O.

er (who is the Loadstone that directs the Gulls Compass) wilbe his halfe in game and sitting close by his elbowe so as he may looke into his cards (hauing formerly made his match with a third person who is the opposite Gamesker and the Imposters friendhalfe also) no game of likly hood comes into the Guls hand but the Imposter by senerall signes tels it to the aduerse party, as such a motion with his gloue for fine and fittie, such a curling of his hayze for Prime, such a rubbing of his nose for nine and thirty, such a finger for such a number, and such a finger for such, so that the poore Gul shall not haue a game that he will not discouer; when thus they haue cheated him of all his substance, then the Imposter lends him moze money, till the Guls credit be on the vttermost tenter, then he makes him take money, Jewels, Clookes, Carments or any thing upon Impost, (which is to pay so much upon euery stake till such a some be raised, or if it be at Dice so much upon euery Wayne till such a some be repaid) and hauing suckt whilst one droppe of blood will come; the Imposter begins to quarrell in the Guls behalfe, and in that tumult game is broake off, all are disperst and the Imposter and his companion share the Guls goods betweene them.

There is also another which is called a deluder, this fellow for the most part is a man of substance; he commonly weares on the little finger of his left hand a fayze table Dyamond, or a square Topas, which turning inwards as hee drawes the Cards will discouer euery card he pulleth, and then stoping those which are for his purpose, he maketh his game as sure as if he had leaue to chuse what cards him please; If this Deluder be not able to compasse such a King, the he will haue a most excellent hatcht Silver Rapier, so purely polished and trim'd that no Looking glasse can shew any figure fayrer, this Rapier he layes crosse his wast iust vnder his left hand and (in it) seeing what cards he draweth, makes the same vse was spoke of the Dyamond, and thus Simplicitie being made a leane foole and his plaine dealing a Begger, knaues grow rich as the Diuell; and feed with the curses of vndone people.

The Postmaister of Hell, seeing such villany to goe vpon



The *Bel-mans* night-walkes,  
and downe in cloakes lined cleane through with Veluet,  
was glad hee had such newes to send ouer, and therefore  
sealing vp a letter full of it, deliuered the same to filthy bea-  
red Caron (their owne Water-man) to be conueied first to  
the Porter of Hell, and then (by him) to the Waister keeper  
of the Diuels.

*Of Ferriting*

CHAP. III.

The manner of vndooing Gentlemen by taking vp of  
commodities.

**H**unting is a Noble, a manly, and healthfull exercise, it  
is a very true picture of warre, nay, it is a warre in it  
selfe, for engines are brought into the field, stratagems are  
contriued, ambushes are laide, onsets are giuen, alarms  
strucke vp, braue encounters are made, fierce assalings are  
resisted by strength, by courage, or by policie: the enemy is  
pursued, and the Pursuers neuer giue over till they haue him  
in execution, then is a Retreat sounded: then are spoyles  
diuided, then come they home wearied, but yet crowned  
with honour and victorie. And as in battailes there bee se-  
uerall manners of fight: so in the pastime of hunting, there  
are seuerall degrees of game.

*Hunting  
of the  
Lyon, &c.* Some hunt the Lyon, and that shewes, as when sub-  
iects rise in Armes against their King. Some hunt the A-  
niconne, for the treasure on his head, and they are like coue-  
tous men, that care not whom they kill for riches. Some  
hunt the spotted Panther, and the freckled Leopard, they  
are such as to inioy their pleasures regard not how black an  
infamie stickes vpon them: all these are barbarous and vn-  
naturall Huntsmen, for they range vp and downe the de-  
serts, the Wildernes, and the Mountaines. Others pursue  
the long-lived Hart, the couragious Stag. or the nimble foot-  
ed Deere: these are the noblest hunters, and they exercise  
the Noblest game: these by following the Chase, get  
strength of bodie, a free and vndisquieted minde, magnani-  
mitie of spirit, alacritie of heart, and vnwearisomnesse to  
breake through the hardest labours: their pleasures are not  
insatiable.

*Hunting  
of the  
Bucke,*



Whereunto is added O per se O.

insatiable, but are contented to be kept within limits, for these hunt within Parkes inclosed, & within bounded Forrests. The hunting of the Hare teaches feare to be bold, and puts simplicitie to her shifts, that she grewes cunning and prouident: the turnings and crosse windings that she makes are embleames of this lifes vncertaintie: when she thinkes she is further from danger, it is at hir heeles, and when it is nearest to her, the hand of safetie defends her. When shee is wearied and hath run her race, she takes her death patiently, therby to teach man to make himselfe ready, when the graue gapes for him.

Hunting of the Hare.

All these kinds of hunting are abroad in the open field, but there is a close Citie hunting, onely within the walles, that puls down Parkes, layes open Forrests, destroyes Chaces, wounds the Deere of the land, and makes such haucke of the goodliest Beards that (by their wils, who are the rangers,) none should be left alive but the Rascals. This kinde of hunting is base & ignoble. It is the meanest, yet the most mischievous, & it is called Ferreting. To behold a chase or two at this, did the light horseman of Hell one day leape into the saddle.

*Citie-hunting.*

**T**his Ferret-hunting hath his Seasons as other games have, and is only followed at such a time of yeere, when the Gentry of our kingdome by riots, hauing chased themselves out of the faire reuenewes and large possessions left to them by their ancestors, are forced to hide their heads like Conies, in little caues and in vnfrequented places: or else being almost wndelesse, by running after sensuall pleasures too fiercely, they are glad (for keeping themselves in breath so long as they can) to fall to Ferret-hunting, that is to say, to take by commodities.

What persons follow the game of Ferrethunting.

No warrant can be graunted for a Bucke in this Forrest, but it must passe vnder these five hands.

1. He that hunts by and downe to finde game, is called the Tumbler.
2. The commodities that are taken by are called Purse-nets.
3. The Citizens that fells them is the Ferret.

The Tragedie of Ferrethunting divided into five acts.



## The *Ber-mans* night walkes.

4. They that take vp are the Rabbet-suckers.

5. He vpon whose credit these Rabbet-suckers runne, is called the Warren.

### *How the warren is made.*

**A**fter a reire Conies vse to come out of their holes, and to sit nibbling on weedes, or any thing in the coole of the euening, and after a reueling, when younger brothers haue spent all or in gaming haue lost all, they sit plotting in their chambers, with necessity, how to be furnished presently with a new supply of money. They would take vp any commoditie whatsoeuer, but their names stand in too many texted letters already in Mercers and Scriueners bookes: vpon a hundred pounds worth of Rosted beefe they could finde in their hearts to venture, for that would a way in turning of a hand: but where shall they finde a Butcher, or a Cooke, that will let any man run so much vpon the score for flesh onely? Suppose therefore that foure of such loose-fortuned gallants were tied in one knot, and knewe not how to fasten themselves vpon some wealthy Citizen. At the length it runnes into their heads, that such a young Nouice (who daily serues to fill vp their company) was neuer intangled in any Citie lime-bush: they knowe his present meanes to be good, and those to come to be great: him therefore they lay vpon the Anuill of their wittes, till they haue wrought him like war, for himselfe as well as for them, to doe any thing in war, or indeed till they haue won him to slide vpon this Ice (because he knowes not the danger) he is easily vndone: for he considers within himselfe that they are all Gentlemen well descended, they haue rich fathers, they weare good cloathes, haue bin gallant spenders, and doe now and then (still) let it slide freely: hee is to venture vpon no more rockes than all they, what then should he feare: he therefore resolues to doe it, and the rather because his owne exhibition runnes lowe, and that there lacke a great many weekes to the Quarter day, at which time, he shall be refurnished from his father. The match being thus agreed vpon, one of them that has bene an olde Ferret-monger, and knowes all the trickes of such Hunting, seeks out a Tumbler, that is to say, a fellow,

him.



Whereunto is added *O per se O.*

Who beates the bush for them till they catch the birds, hee himselfe being contented (as he protests and sweares) onely with a few feathers.

*The Tumblers hunting dry-foote.*

**T**his Tumbler being let loose, runnes Smuffling by and downe close to the ground, in the Shops either of Mercers, Gouldsmiths Drapers, Haberdashers, or of any other Trade, where he thinks he may meete with a Ferret: and tho vpon his very first course, he can finde his game, yet to make his Gallants moze hungry, and to thinke hee wearies himselfe in hunting the moze, hee comes to them sweating, and swearing that the Citie Ferrets are so coaped (that is to say, haue their lippes stitched vp close) that he can hardly get them open to so great a sum as five hundred pounds, which they desire. This Pearbe being chewed downe by the Rabbet-suckers almost kills their hearts, and is worse to them then dabbing on the necks to Connies. They bid him if he cannot fasten his teeth vpon Plate, or Cloth, or Silkes, to lay hold on brown Paper or Tobacco, Bartholmeu babies, Lute-strings or Hob-nailes, or two hundred pounds in saint Thomas Onions, and the rest in money; the Onions they could get wenches enough to crie and sell them by the Kope, and what remaines should serue them with Button. Vpon this, their Tumbler trots by and downe againe. And at last lighting on a Citizen that wil deale, the names are receiued and deliuered to a Scriuener, who enquiring whether they be good men and true, that are to passe vpon the life & death of five hundred pounds, finds that foure of the five, are wind-shaken, and ready to fall into the Lords handes: marrie the fift man is an Oake, and ther's hope that he cannot be hewed downe in hast. Vpon him therefore the Citizen buildes so much as comes to five hundred pounds yet takes in the other foure to make them serue as scaffolding, till the frame bee furnished, and if then it hold, he cares not greatly who takes them downe. In all haste, are the bonds sealed, and the commodities deliuered: And then does the Tumbler fetch his second carriere, and thats this.

The nature of a London Tumbler.



## The Bel-mans night walkes.

### The Tumblers Hunting Counter.

**T**he wares which they fished for being in the hand of the five sharers, doe now more trouble their wits how to turne those wares into ready money, then before they were troubled to turne their credits into wares. The tree being once more to bee shaken, they know it must lose fruite, and therefore their Factor must barter away their marchandize, tho it be with losse: Abroad into the City he sailes for that purpose, and deales with him that sold, to buy his owne commodities againe for ready money: He will not doe it vnder thirty pound losse in the hundred: other Archers bowes are tryed at the same marke, but all keepe much about one scantling: backe therefore comes their Carrier with this newes, that no man will disburse so much present money vpon any wares whaffoener. Snelly he met by good fortune with one friend (and that friend is himselfe) who for 10. l. will procure them a Chapman: marry that Chapman will not buy vntill he may haue them at 30. l. losse in the hundred: Iuh crie all the Sharers, a pore on these Forefur'd Curmudgions, giue that fellow your friend 10. l. for his paines, and fetch the rest of the money: within an houre after, it is brought, and poured downe in one heape vpon a tauerne table; where making a goodly shew, as if it could neuer be spent, all of them consult what fee the Tumbler is to haue, for Hunting so well, and conclude that lesse then 10. l. they cannot giue him, which 10. l. is the first told out. Now let vs cast by this account: In euery 100. l. is lost 30. which being 5. times 30. l. makes 150. l. that Summe the Ferret puts vp cleere besides his ouer-prising the wares: vnto which 150. l. lost, adde 10. l. more, which the Tumbler guls them off, and other 10. l. which he hath for his voyage, all which makes 170. l. which deducted from 500. l. there remaineth onely 330. to be diuided amongst five, so that euery one of the partners they shall haue but 66. l. yet this they all put vp merily, washing downe their losses with Sacke and sugar, whereof they drinke that night profoundly: nay it hath beene verily reported that one Gentleman of great hopes tooke vp one Hundred pound in browne Paper, and sold it for fortye pound,

another



another hundred pound in Hobby-horses and sold them for thirty pound, and sixteene pound in Foyts of Nutton and guraters of Labine ready rosted and sold them for threepound, Hinc Lacrimæ, this was strange but not wonderfull.

*How the Warren is spoiled*

**V**Vhilst this fayre weather lasteth, and that there is any grasse to nibble vpon, These Rabbet-suckers keepe to the Warren wherein they fatned : but the cold day of repayment approaching, they retire deepe into their caves; so that when the Ferret makes account to haue five before him in chase, foure of the five lie hidden, and are stolne into other grounds. No maruell, then if the Ferret grow fierce and teare open his owne iawes, to sucke blood from him that is left: no maruell if he scratch what wooll he can from his backe: the Pursnets that were Set, are all taken vp and carried away. The Warren therefore must be Searched, That must pay for all: ouer that does hee range like a little Lord. Sergeants, Marshals-men, and Baliffes are sent forth, who lie scouting at euery corner, and with terrible pawes haunt euery walke. In conclusion the bird that these Hawkes flie after, is seazd vpon, then are his feathers plucked, his estate look't into, then are his wings broken, his lands made ouer to a stranger: then must our young Sonne and Heyre pay fīue hundred pound, (for which he neuer had but 66. pound) or else lie in Prison. To keepe himselfe from which, hee seales to any bond, enters into any statute, morgageth any Lordship, Does any thing, Saies any thing, yeelds to pay any thing. And these Citie stormes (which will wet a man, till he haue neuer a dry threed about him, though he be kept neuer so warme) fall not vpon him once or twice: But being a little way in; hee cares not how deepe he wades, the greater his possessions are, the apter he is to take vp and to be trusted: the more he is trusted, the more he comes in debt, the farther in debt, the neerer to danger. Thus Gentlemen are wrought vpon, thus are they Cheated, thus are they Ferreted, thus are they Vndone.



The *Bel-mans* night-walkes,  
*Fawlcners.*

Of a new kinde of Hawking. teaching how to catch  
Birds by Bookes.

Hawking.

**H**Vnting and Hawking are of kin, and therefore it is fit they should keepe company together: both of them are noble games, and Recreations, honest and healthfull, yet they may so be abused that nothing can be more hurtfull. In Hunting, the Game is commonly still before you, or i'th hearing, and within a little compasse: In Hawking, the game flies farre off, and oftentimes out of sight: A Couple of Rookes therefore (that were birds of the last feather) conspired together to leaue their nest in the Citie, and to flutter abroad, into the Country: Upon two leane hackneies, were these two Doctor Doddipoleshozt, Ciuilly suted, that they might carry about them some badge of a Scholler.

The Duels Ranck-rider, that came from the last Citie Hunting, vnderstanding that two such Light-horsemen were gone a Hawking, posts after and ouer-takes them. After some ordynarie high-way talke, hee begins to question of what profession they were? One of them smiling scornfully in his face, as thinking him to be some Gul, (and indeed such fellows take all men for Guls, who they thinke to bee beneath them in qualitie) told him they were Faulconers. But the fore that followed them, seeing no properties, (belonging to a Faulconer) about them, smelt knauerie, tooke them for a payze of mad rascals, and therefore resolved to see at what these Falconers would let flie.

*How to cast vp the Lure.*

The first  
Note.

**A**T last on a suddaine, sayes one of them to him, Sir, we haue Sprung a Partridge, and so fare you well: which words came stammering out with the haste that they made, for presently the two Forragers of the Countrie, were vpon the Spur: Plutoes Post seeing this, stood still to watch them, and at length saw them in maine gallop make toward a goodly fayze place, where either some Knight, or some great Gentleman kept; and this goodly house belike was the Partridge which those Falconers had sprung. Hee being loath to loose



loose his share in this Hawking, and hauing power to transforme himselfe as he listed, came thither as soone as they, but beheld all (which they did) invisible. They both, like two Knights Errant, alighted at the Gate, knocked, and were let in: The one walkes the Hackneyes in an outward Court, as if he had beene but Squire to Sir Dagonet. The other (as boldy as Saint George, when he hard the Dragon at his very Den) marcheth vndanitedly by to the Hall, where looking ouer those poore creatures of the house, that were but the bare Blew-coats (for *Aquila non capir Muscas*) what should a Falconer meddle with flies: he onely salutes him that in his eye seemes to be a Gentleman-like fellow: Of him he askes for his good Knight, or so, and sayes that he is a Gentleman come from London on a businesse, which he must deliuer to his owne Worshipfull Eare. Up the staires does braue Mount Dragon ascend: the Knight and he encounter, and with this staffe does he valliantly charge vpon him.

*How the Bird is Caught.*

**S**ir, I am a poore Scholler, and the report of your vertues hath drawne me hither, venturously bold to firs your worthy name as a Patronage to a poore short discourse, which beere I dedicate (out of my leue) to your noble and eternall Memory: this speech he bitters barely.

The Hawking Pamphleter is then bid to put on, whilst his Miscelaine Macenas, opens a Booke fayrely appareld in Yellow, with gilt-filits, and four-penny-like ribbon at least, like little streamers on the top of a March-pane Castle, hanging dandling by at the foure corners: the title bring superficially suruaid, in the next leafe he sees that the Author hee, hath made him one of his Gollips, for the Booke carries his Worships name, and vnder it stands an Epistle iust the length of a Bench-mans grace before dinner, which is long inough for any Booke in conscience, vnlesse the writer be vnreasonable.

The Knight being told before hand, that this little Hambeame of Phoebus (shining thus briskely in print) hath his Witte or Atomp waiting vpon him in the outward Court, thanks him for his loue and labour, and considering with himselfe, what  
cost



The *Bel-mans* night-walkes,

cost he hath beene at, and how farre he hath ridden to come to him, he knowes that Patrons and Godfathers, are to pay scot and lot alike, and therefore to cherish his young and tender Muse, he giues him foure or fife Angels, inuiting him either to stay breakfast, or if the Sunne-diall of the house points towards eleven, then to farry dinner.

*How the Bird is drest.*

**B**Ut the fish being caught (for which our Heliconian Angler threw out his lines) with thanks, and legges, and kissing his owne hand, he parts. No sooner is hee hoist, but his Hostler (who all this while walked the iades, and trauels by and downe with him (like an undeseruing Plaier for halfe a share) askes this question, Strawes or not? Strawes cryes the whole sharer and a halfe, away then replies the first, Lie to our nest: this nest is neuer in the same towne but commonly a mile or two off, and it is nothing else but the next Tauerne they come to. But the Willageinto which they rode being not able to maintaine an Iuybush, an Ale-house was their Inne: where aduancing themselves into the fairest chamber, and be-speaking the best cheere in the towne for dinner, downe they sit, and share before they speake of any thing else: That done, he that ventures vpon all hee meetes, and discharges the paper Bullets, (for to tell truth, the other serues but as a signe, and is meere no-body) begins to discourse, how he carried himselfe in the action, how he was encountred: how hee stood to his tackling, and how well he came off: hee calles the Knight, a Noble fellow, yet they both thrug, and laugh, and sweares they are glad they haue Guld him.

More arrowes must they shoste of the same length that this first was of, and therefore there is a Trunke full of Trincets, that is to say, their budget of Wookes is opend againe, to see what lease they are to turne ouer next, which whilst they are doing, the Ghost that all this space haunted them, and heard what they said, hauing excellent skill in the blacke Art, that is to say, in picking of lockes, makes the dooze suddenly flie open (which they had closely shut. At his strange entrance they being somewhat agast, began to shuffle away their  
hookes,

How birds  
are drest  
after they  
be caught.



bookes, but he knowing what cards they plaid withall, offered to cut, and turnd by two knaues by this tricke: my Waiters (quoth he) I know where you haue bin, I knowe what you haue done. I know what you meane to doe, I see now you are Falconers indeed, but by the (and then he swore a damnable oath) vnles you teach me to shoot in this Birding pcece, I will raise the Tillage, send for the knight whom you beaſt you haue guld, & ſo diſgrace you for your money I care not.

The two Free-booters ſeeing themſelues ſmoked, told their third Brother, he ſeemed to be a gentleman and a beere companion, they praied him therfore to ſit down with ſilence, and ſithence dinner was not yet ready, he ſhould heare all.

This new kind of Hawking (quoth one of them) which you ſee vs be can afford no name vnleſſe ſue be at it, viz.

1. He that caſts vp the Lure is called the Falconer.
2. The Lure that is caſt vp in on idle Pamphlet.
3. The Tercel-Gentle that comes to the Lure, is ſome knight, or ſome Gentleman of like qualitie.
4. The Bird that is preied vpon, is Honey.
5. He that walkes the hoſſes, and hunts dry-foote is called a Mougrell.

*The Falconer and his Spaniell.*

**T**he Falconer hauing ſcraped together certaine ſmall parings of wit, hee firſt cuts them haſſomely in prettie pceces, and of thoſe pceces does he patch vp a booke. This booke he prints at his owne charge, the Mougrell running vp and downe to looke to the workemen, and bearing likewise ſome part of the coſt, (for which hee enters vpon this halfe ſhare.) When it is fully finiſhed, the Falconer and his Mougrell, (or it may bee two Falconers ioyne in one,) but howſoeuer, it is by them deuised what ſhire in England it is beſt to forrage next: that being ſet downe, the Falconers deale either with a Herauld for a note of all the knights and Gentlemens names of worth that dwell in that circuite, which they meane to ride, or els by inquiry, get the chiefeſt of them, printing off ſo many Epiſtles as they haue names, the Epiſtles Dedicatorie being all one, and vary in nothing but in the Titles of their Patrons.



Strange  
hawking.

Having thus furnished themselves, and packed up their wares, away they trudge, like tinkers, with a budget at one of their backs, or it may be the circle they meane to contere in, shall not be out of London, especially if it be Terme-time; or when a Parliament is holden (for then they haue choise of sweete-meates to feede vpon.) If a Gentleman seeing one of these books Dedicated onely to his name, suspect it to be a bastard; that hath moze Fathers besides himselfe, and to try that, does defer the Presenter for a day or two, sending in the meane time (as some haue done) into Paules Church-yard amongst the Stationers to inquire if any such worke be come forth, and if they cannot tell, then to seepe to the Printers: Yet haue the Falconers a trick to goe beyond such Hawkes too, for all they flie so hie: and that is this: The books lye all at the Printers, but not one line of an Epistle to any of them (these bug-bears lurke in Tenebris) if then the Spy that is sent by his Maister, aske why they haue no Dedications to them, Mounfier Printer tels him, the Autho: would not venture to adde any to them all, (sauiing onely to that which was giuen to his Maister) untill it was knowne whether he would accept of it or no.

This satisfies the Patron, this fetches money from him, and this Cozens five hundred besides. Nay, there be other Bird-catchers, that vse stranger quail-pipes: you shall haue fellows, foure or five in a countrey that buying up any olde Booke (especially a Sermon, or any other matter of Diuinitie) that lies for a wast-paper, and is cleane forgotten, and a new printed epistle to it, & with an Alphabet of letters which they carry about them, being able to print any mans name (for a Dedication) on the sudden, trauell vp and downe most Shires in England, and liue by this Hawking.

Are we not excellent Falconers now (quoth three halfe shares?) excellent villaines, cried the Diuels Deputy: by this the meate (for dinner came smoking in, vpon which they fell most tyrannically, yet (for manners sake) offering first, to the Walife of Belzebub the vpper end of the table, but he fearing they would make a Hawke or a Buzzard of him too, and report they had ridden him like an Asse, as they had done o-

thers



Whereunto is added *O per se O.*

thers, out a doozes he flung with a vengeance as he came.

*O* sacred Learning ! why dost thou suffer thy seven lea-  
ued Tree, to bee plucked by barbarous and most unhel-  
lowed hands? Why is thy beautifull Maiden body polluted  
like a strumpets, and prostituted to beastly and slavish Ig-  
norance? *O* thou Bale-broode, that make the Muses Har-  
lots, yet say they are your Mothers? You Theeves of Wit,  
Cheaters of Arte, Traitors of schooles of Learning: murder-  
ers of Schollers: Howe worthy you are, to vndergoe the Ro-  
mane Furca, like slaues, and to be branded i'th fore-head dee-  
per then they that forge Testaments to vndee Orphants:  
Such doe but rob children of goods that may be lost: but you  
rob Schollers of their fame, which is dearer then life. You  
are not worthy an Inuective, not worthy to haue your names  
droppe out of a deseruing pen, you shall onely be executed in  
Picture, (as they vse to handle Malefactors in France) and  
the picture (though it were drawn to be hung vp in another  
place) shall leaue you impudently arrogant to your selues,  
and ignominiously ridiculous to after ages: in these colours,  
are you drawne.

*The true Picture of these Falconers.*

—There be Fellowes

Of course and common blood; Mechanicke knaues,  
Whose wits lye deeper buried then in graues:  
And indeede smell more earthy, whose creation  
Was but to giue a Boote or Shooe good fashion.  
Yet these (sowing by the Apron and the Awle)  
Being drunke with their owne wit, cast vp their gall  
Onely of Inke: and in patchd, beggerly Rimes,  
(As full of fowle corruption, as the Times)  
From towne to towne they strowle in soule, as poore  
As th' are in clothes: yet these at euery doore,  
Their labours Dedicate. But (as at faires)  
Like Pedlers they shew still one sort of wares  
Vnto all commers (with some filde oration)  
And thus to giue bookes now's an occupation.  
One booke hath seven-score patrons: thus defart  
Is cheated of her due: this noble art



## The Bel-mans night walkes.

Giues Ignorance (that common strumpet) place  
Thus the true schollers name growes cheap and base, &c.

### *lackes of the Clock-house.*

#### CHAP. IIII.

A new and cunning drawing of money from  
Gentlemen.

**T**here is another Fraternitie of wandring Pilgrims,  
who merrily call themselves, Iacks of the Clock-house,  
and are very neere allied to the Falconers, that went a Haw-  
king befoze. The Clarke of Erebus set downe their names  
too in his Tables, with certaine bryefe notes of their practi-  
ses: and these they are.

The Iacke of a Clock-house goes vpon Screws, and his  
office is to doe nothing but strike: so does this norse, (for  
they walke vp and downe like Fiddlers) trauaile with Mo-  
tions, and whatsoever their Motions got them is called  
Striking.

Those Motions are certaine Collections, or wittie Inuen-  
tions, sometimes of one thing, and then of another (there is  
a new one now in towne, in praise of the Vnion.) And these  
are fayzely wrytten and ingrossed in Uellum Parchment,  
or Royall paper, richly adozned with compartiments, and  
set out with letters both in gold, and in various colours.

This labour beeing taken, the Maister of the Motion  
hearkens where such a Nobleman, such a Lord, or such a  
Knight lies, that is liberall: hauing found one to his liking,  
The Motion (with his Patrons name fairely tersed out, in  
manner of a Dedication,) is presented befoze him: he receiues  
it, and thinking it to be a worke onely vnder taken for his  
sake, is bounteous to the giuer, esteeming him a scholler, and  
knowing that not without great trauaile, he hath drabne  
so many little straggling streames into so faire and smooth  
a Riuer: whereas the worke is the labour of some other  
(copied out by stealth) by an impudent ignorant fellow, that  
runs vp and downe with the Transcripts, and euery Ale-  
house may haue one of them (hanging in the basest drinking  
roome)



roomie) if they will be at the charges of writing it out. Thus the liberalitie of a Nobleman, or of a Gentleman is abused: thus learning is brought into scorn and contempt: Thus men are cheated of their bounty, giuing much for that (out of their free mindes) which is common abroad, and put alway for base prices. Thus villanie sometimes walkes alone, as if it were giuen to Melancholie, and sometimes knaues tie themselves in a knot, because they may bee more merry, as by a mad sort of Courrades whome I see leaping into the Saddle, anon it will appeare.

*Ranke-Riders.*

CHAP. V.

The manner of Cozening Inne-keepers Post-masters  
and Hackney-men.

**T**here is a troope of Horsemen, that run vp and downe the whole Kingdome, they are euer in a gallop, their businesse is weightie, their tourneyes many, their expences great, their Tunes euery where, their lands no where: they haue onely a certaine Free-hold called Tyborne, (situate neere London, and many a faire paire of Gallons in other Countreies besides,) vpon which they liue very poorly, till they die, & die for the most part wickedly, because their liues are villanous and desperate. But what race soeuer they run, there they end it, there they set vp their rest, there is their last baite, whither soeuer their iourney lyes. And these horsemen haue no other names but Ranke-Riders.

To furnish whome soeuer for any iourney, they must haue Riding suites cut out of these foure peeres.

1 The Inne-keeper or Hackney-man, of whome they haue horses, is called, A Colt.

2 Hee that neuer alights from a rich Farmer or countie Gentleman, till he haue draine money from him, is called The Snaffle.

3 The money so gotten, is The Ring.

4 He that feeds them with money is called, The Provander.



## The Bel-mans night-walkes,

These Ranke-riders (like Butchers to Runford market) Aldome goe without fire or seven in a company, and these Carceres they fetch, Their purses being warmly lined with some purchase gotten before, and they themselves well booted and spurred, and in reasonable good outsidies, arise at the fairest Anne they can choose, either in westminster, the Strand, the Citie, or the Suburbes.

The manner  
of bridling  
a colt.

Two of them who haue clothes of purpose to fit the play, carrying the shew of Gentlemen, the other act their parts in blew coates, as they were their Seruicemen, though indeed they be all fellowes. They enter all durted or dustied (according as it shall please the high way to vse them) and the first bridle they put into the Colts mouth (that is to say, the Anne-keepers) is at their coming in to aske aloud if the footeman be gone backe with the hoxses: tis answered yes. Heere, the Ranke-riders lye there or foure dayes, spending moderately enough, yet abating not a penny of any reckoning to shew of what house they come: in which space their counterfeit followers learne what Country man the maister of the house is, where the Hostlers and Chamberlaines were borne, and what other Country Gentlemen are guests to the Anne: which lessons being presently gotten by heart, they fall into study with the generall rules of their knauery: and those are, first to giue out, that their Maister is a Gentleman of such and such meanes, in such a shire which shall be sure to stand farre enough from those places (where any of the house, or of other guests were borne,) that he is come to receiue so many hundred pounds vpon land which he hath sold, and that he meanes to Anne there some quarter of a yeere at least.

This Masse money passing for currant through the house, he is moze obserued and better attended, is worshipped at every worde: and the easier to breake and bridle the Colt, his Worship will not sit downe to Dinner or Supper till the Maister of the house bee placed at the upper ende of the boord by him.

In the middle of Supper, or else very earely in the following morning, comes in a counterfeit footeman, sweating



singly deliuering a message, that such a knight hath sent for the head-Maister of these Ranke-riders, and that he must be with him by such an houre, the iourney being not aboue twelue or fourteene miles. Upon deliuey of this message, (from so deare and noble a friend) he sweares and chafes, because all his horses are out of Towne, curseth the sending of them backe, offers any mony to haue himselfe, his conzen with him, and his men but reasonably host. His host being a credulous Ass, suffers them all to get by vpon him, for he prouides them horses, either of his olone (thinking his Guest to be a man of great account, and being loth to loose him, because he spends well) or else sends out to hyze them of his neighbours passing his word for their forth-comming within a day or two, Up they get and away gallop our rank-riders, as farre as the pooze Iades can carry them.

The two dayes being ambled out of the world, and perhaps three moze after them, yet neither a supply of Horses men or Foote-men, (as was promised) to bee set eye vpon. The lamentable Inne keeper (or Hackney-man, if he chance to be Saddled for this iourney too) loose their Colts teeth, and finde that they are made olde arrant Iades: Search, then runnes by and dolne, like a Constable halfe out of his wits (vpon a Shrove-tuesday) and hue and cry folloves after, some twelue or foureteene miles off, (round about London) which was the farthest of their iourney as they gaue out. But (Alas!) the horses are at pasture fourescore or a hundred miles from their olde mangers: they were sold at some blinde drunken theeuish faire, (there being enow of them in company to saue themselves, by their Toll-booke,) the Seruing-men cast off their blew coates, and crie, All fellowes: the money is spent vpon Wine, vpon Whores, vpon Fiddlers, vpon Fooles, (by whom they will loose nothing) and the tyde being at an ebbe, they are as ready to practise their skill in Horse-manship to bytug Colts to the saddle in that Towne, and to make Hags runne a race of three-score or a hundred miles off from that place, as before they did from London.



## The Bel-mans night-walkes,

### Running at the Ring.

**T**Hus, so long as Horseflesh can make them fat, they neuer leaue feeding. But when they haue beaten so many high-waies in seuerall countries, that they feare to be overtaken by Tracers, then (like Souldiers coming from a Breach) they march faire and softly on foote, lying in Carri-son, as it were, close in some out to wnes, till the foule Rumor of their villanies (like a stormy durty winter) be blown oer: In which time of lurking in the shell, they are not idle neither, but like snailes, they venture abroad, though the Law hath threatned to raine downe neuer so much punishment vpon them: and what doe they? they are not Wæes to liue by their owne painfull labors, but Drones that must eate vpon the sweetnes, and be fed with the earnings of others: This therefore is their worke. They carelesly inquire what Gentleman of worth, or what rich Farmers dwell within five, sixe or seuen miles of the Fort where they are insconcd, (which they may doe without suspicion) and hauing got their names, they single out themselves in a morning, & each man takes a seuerall path to himselfe: one goes East, one West, one North, and the other South: walking either in bootes with wands in their hands, or otherwise, for it is all to one purpose. And note this by the way, that when they trauell thus on foot, they are no more called Ranke-riders, but Trowlers, a proper name giuen to Country Players, that (without Sockes) trot from towne to towne vpon the bare hoofe.

Being arrived at the Gate where the Gentlemen, or Farmer dwelleth, he boldly knocks, inquiring for him by name, and steps in to speake with him: the seruant seeing a fashionable person, tels his Maister there is a Gentleman desires to speake with him: the Maister comes and salutes him, but eying him well, saies he does not know him: Po Sir, replies the other (with a face bold enough) it may be so, but I pray you Sir, will you walke a turne or two in your Orchard or Garden I would there conferre: Hauing got him thither, to this tune he plaies vpon him.



*How the Snaffle is put on.*

**S**ir, I am a Gentleman, borne to better meanes then my present fortunes doe allow me: I serued in the field, and had command there. But long peace (you knowe Sir) is the Canker that eates by Souldiers, and so it hath me. I lie here not farre off in the Country, at mine Inne, where staying vpon the dispatch of some businesse, I am indebted to the house in monies, so that I cannot with the credite of a Gentleman leave the house till I haue paid them. Take me Sir, so much beholden to your loue, as to lend me fortie or fiftie shillings to beare my horse and my selfe to London, from whence within a day or two, I shall send you many thanks, with a faithfull repaiment of your curtesie.

The honest Gentleman, or the good natur'd Farmer beholding a personable man, fashionably attired and not carrying in outward colours, the face of a coggling knaue, giues credit to his wordes, are sorry that they are not at this present time so well furnished as they could wish, but if a matter of twenty shillings can stead him, hee shall command it, because it were pittie any honest Gentleman should for so small a matter miscarry. Happily they meete with some Chap-men that giue their owne asking: but howsoeuer, all is as that comes to net, they are the most conscionable market folkes that euer rode betweene two paniers, for from fortie they will fall to twenty, from twenty to ten, from ten to five: nay these Mountibankes are so base, that they are not ashamed to take two shillings of a plaine husbandman, & sometimes six pence (which the other giues simply and honestly) of whom they demanded a whole fiftene.

In this manner doe they digge silver out of mens purses all the day, and at night meete together at the appointed Rendezuoz, where all these Snaffles are loosed to their full length, the Rings which that day they haue made, are woone. The Proudner is praised or dispraised, as they find it in goodnes, but it goes downe all, whilst they laugh at all.

And thus does a Common-wealth bring by children, that care not how they discredit her, or bndoe her: who would imagine that Birds so faire in the w, and so sweets in boyce,



Should be so dangerous in condition: but Ravens thinke carry on the daintiest meate, and villaines esteeme most of that money which is purchast by basenesse.

The Under-Sheriffe for the County of Cacodemon, knowing into what arrerages these Rancor-riders were runne, for horse-flesh to his maister, (of whom he farmed the office) sent out his writs to attach them, and so narrowly pursued them, that for all they were wel hoist, some he sent post to the gallows, & the rest to severall Jayles: After which, making all the hast he possibly could to get to London againe, he was way-laid by an armie of a strong and new-found people.

*Moone-men.*

CHAP. VI.

A discovery of a strange wilde people very dangerous to Townes and Country Villages.

**A** Moone-man, signifies in English, a mad-man, because the Moone hath greatest domination (above any other Planet) over the bodies of Franticke persons. But these Moone-men (whose Images are now to be carued) are neither absolutely mad, nor yet perfectly in their wits. Their name they borrow from the Moone, because as the Moone is neuer in one shape two nights together, but wanders by and about Heauen, like an Anticke, so these changeable-stuffe-companions neuer tarry one day in a place, but are the onely, and the onely base Kunnagates vpon earth. And as in the Moone there is a man, that neuer stirres without a bush of thornes at his backe, so these Moone-men lie vnder bushes, and are indeede no better then Hedge-creeperes.

They are a people more scattered then Jewes, and more hated: beggerly in apparell, barbarous in condition, beastly in behaviour, and bloody if they meete aduantage. A man that sees them would sweare they had all the yellow Plaudies, or that they were Tawny Mooze bastards, for no red-waker man carries a face of a more filthy complexion, yet are they not bozne so, neither hath the Sunne burnt them so, but they are painted so, yet they are not good painters neither: for they doe not make faces, but warre faces. By a by-name they



Whereunto is added *O per se O*:

are called Gypsies, they call themselves Egyptians, others in mockery call them Moone-men.

If they be Egyptians, sure I am they neuer descended from the Tribes of any of those people that came out of the Land of Egypt: Potlomey (King of the Egyptians) I warrant neuer called them his subiects: no no2 Pharao befoze him. Take what difference there is betweene a civill Citizen of Dublin, and a wild Irish Kerne, so much difference there is betweene one of these counterfeited Egyptians, and a true English begger. An English Rogue is iust of the same livery.

They are commonly an Armie about foure-score strong, yet they neuer march with all their bags and baggages together, but (like Boote-balers) they forrage by and downe countries, 4, 5, or 6. in a company. As the Switzer has his wench and his Cocke with him when he goes to the warres, so these vagabonds haue their harlots with a number of little children following at their heeles: which young brood of beggers, are sometimes carried (like so many greene geese as liue to a market) in paires of paniers, or in duffers like fresh fish from Rye that comes on horsebacke, (if they be but infants. But if they can straddle once, then as well the rogues as the he-rogues are horst, seven or eight vpon one iate, strongly pineond, and strangely tied together.

*His order in marching on foote or serving vpon horse.*

One Shire alone and no moze is sure still at one time, to haue these Egyptian-like swarming within it, for like flocks of wilde-geese, they will euermoze flye one after another: let them be scattered worse then the quarters of a Traitor are after hees hang'd downe and quartred, yet they haue a trick (like water cut with a sword) to come together instantly and easily againe: and this is their pollicie, which way soeuer the foremost rankes lead, they sticke by small boughes in seuerall places, to euery village where they passe, which serue as enignes to waite on the rest.

Their apparell is old, and phantastick, though it be neuer so full of rents; the men weare Scarfes of Callico, or any other base stuffe, hanging their bodies like Morris-dancers, with belles, and other toys, to intice the countrey people to flocke about them, and to wonder at their fooleries, or rather

*His furni- ture.*



## The Bel-mans night walkes.

sauke Knaueries. The women as ridiculously attire themselves, and (like one, that plates the rogue on a Stage) weare rags, and patched filthy mantles hypermost, when the vndergarments are handsome and in fashion.

As maner  
of fight.

The battailes these Out-lawes make, are many and very bloody. Whosoever falls into their hands neuer escapes alive; and so cruell they are in these murders, that nothing can satisfie them but the very heart blood of those whom they kill. And who are they (thinke you) that thus goes to the pot? Alasse! Innocent Lambs, Sheep, Calues, Pigges, &c. Poultrye-wares are more cruelly handled by them, then poore prisoners are by keepers in the Counter with Poultry. A Goose coming amongst them learns to be wise, that he neuer will be Goose any more. The bloody Tragedies of all these, are onely acted by the women, who carrying long knives or sheaues vnder their mantles, doe thus play their parts: The Stage is some large Heath: or a Firre-bush Common, farre from any houses: Upon which casting themselves into a ring, they inclose the murdered, till the Massacre be finished. If any passenger come by, and wondering to see such a confining circle kept by Bel-hounds, and demand what spirits they raise there: one of the Murderers steps to him, poisons him with sweete words, and shifts him off, with this lye that one of the women is false in labour: but if any mad Hamlet hearing this, smell villanie, and rush in by violence to see what the talony Diuels are doing, then they excuse the fact, lay the blame on those that are actors, and perhaps (if they see no remedy) deliuer them to an officer, to be had to punishment: but by the way a resene is surely laid, and very valiantly (though very villanously) doe they fetch them off, and guard them.

The Cabbines where these Land-pirates lodge in the night, are the Out-harnes of Farmer and Husbandmen, (in some poore Village or other) who dare not deny them, for feare they should ere morning haue their thatched houses burning about their eares: in these Harnes, are both their Cook-rooms, their supping Parlours, and their Bed-chambers: for there they dyette after a beastly manner, whatsoever they purchase after a theauish fashion: sometimes they eate Wenison,



Wherunto is added *O per se O*.

and haue Gray-hounds that kill it for them, but if they had not, they are Hounds themselves and are damnable Hunters after flesh: Which appeares by their ugly faced queanes that follow them, with whom in these barnes they lye, as Swine doe together in Hogsties.

These Barnes are the beds of Incests, Whoredomes, Adulteries, and of all other black and deadly damned Impieties; here growes the cursed Tree of bastardy, that is so fruitfull: here are written the Books of all Blasphemies, Swearings and Curses, that are so dreadfull to be read. Yet the simple country-people will come running out of their houses to gaze vpon them, whilst in the meane time one steales into the next house, and brings away whatsoeuer he can lay hold on. Upon daies of pastime and liberty, they spread themselves in small companies amongst the villages: and when yong maides and batchelers (yea sometimes olde dotting fooles, that should be beaten to this world of villanies, and forwarne others) doe flocke about them, they then professe skill in Palmestry, and (forsooth) can tell Fortunes, which for the most part are infallibly true, by reason that they worke vpon rules which are grounded vpon certaintie: for one of them will tell you that you shall shortly haue some euill lucke fall vpon you, and within halfe an houre after you shal haue your pocket pick'd, or your purse cut. These are those Egyptian Grasshoppers that eat vpon the fruites of the Earth, and destroy the poore some fields: to sweepe whose swarmes out of this kingdome, there are no other meanes but the sharpenesse of the most infamous and basest kinds of punishment. For if the ugly body of this Monster bee suffered to growe and fatten it selfe with mischiefes and disorder, it will haue a necke so sinewy and so brawny, that the arme of the Lawe will haue much ado to strike off the Head, whence euery day the members of it increase, and it gathers new ioynts and new forces, by Priggers, Anglers, Cheators, Morts, Peomens Daughters (that haue taken some by-blowes, & to auoide shame, fall into their sins) and other Seruants, both men and maides, that haue beene pilferers, with all the rest of that Damned Regiment, marching together in the first Armie of the Bel-man,

His qualities  
whilst hee  
lies intrea-  
ched.

What pecc-  
ces of des-  
perate ser-  
uice he ver-  
tures vpo-



## The Bel-mans night-walkes,

who running away from their owne Colours (which are had enough) serue vnder these, being the worst. Lucifers Laspriado that stood aloofe to behold the sufferings of these Hell-hounds tooke delight to see them Double their Fyles so nimble, but held it no policie to come neare them (for the Diuell himselfe durst scarce haue done that.) Away therefore he gallops, knowing that at one time or other they would all come to fetch their pay in Hell.

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### The infection of the Suburbs.

#### CHAP. VII.

**T**he Infernal Promoter being wearied with riding by and downe the Country, was glad when he had gotten the Citie ouer his head, but the Citie being not able to hold him within the freedome, because he was a forrenner, the gates were set wide open for him to passe thzough, and into the Suburbs he went. And what saw he there? More Alehouses then there are Hauernes in al Spaine and France Are they so dzy in the Suburbs? Yes, peckily dzy. What saw he besides?

He saw the doozes of notozious Carted Bawdes, (like Hell gates) stand night and day wide open, with a paire of Barlots in Tassata gownes (like two painted posts) garnishing out those doozes, being better to the house then a double signe: when the dooze of a poore Artificer (if his child had died but with one Token of death about him) was close ram'd by and Guarded for feare others should haue becne infected: yet the plague that a whoze-house layes vpon the Citie is worse, yet is laughed at: if not laughed at, yet not looked into, or if looked into, Winked at.

The Tradesman hauing his house locked by, looseth his customers, is put from worke & vndene: whilst in the meane time the strumpet is set on worke and maintained (perhaps) by those that vndoe the other: giue thanks & wide mouth'd Hell! laugh Lucifer at this, dance for ioy all you Diuels.

Belzebub keepes the Register Booke, of all the Bawdes, Bawders and Curtizans: and he knowes that these Suburb sinners haue no landes to liue vpon but their legges: euery



Penitence passing by them, can say, there sits a Whore: **W**ith-  
out putting them to their booke; they will sweare so much  
themselves: if so, are not Constables, Church-wardens, Bay-  
liffes, Beadeles, other Officers, Pillars and pillowes to all  
the villanies, that are by these committed: Are they not par-  
cell-Bawdes to winke at such damned abuses, considering  
they haue whippes in their owne hands, and may draw blood  
if they please: Is not the Land-lord of such rents the Grand  
Bawde: and the Dooze-keeping mistresse of such a house of  
sinne, but his vnder Bawd: sithence he takes twenty pounds  
rent euery yeere, for a baulking schoole (which from no Ar-  
tifficer living by the hardnesse of the hand could be worth five  
pound.) And that twenty pound rent, hee knowes must be  
preeft out of petticoats:) his money smells of sinne, the very sil-  
uer lookes pale, because it was earned by lust.

How happy therfore were Cities if they had no Suburbs,  
sithence they serue but as caues, where monsters are bred vp  
to deuoure the Cities themselves: Would the Diuell hire a  
villaine to spill blood: there he shall finde him. One to blas-  
pheme: there he hath choise. A Pandar that would court a  
Patron at her prayers: he is there. A Cheator that would  
turne his owne father a begging: He is there too: A harlot  
that would murder her new borne infant: She lies-in there.

What a wretched wombe hath a strumpet, which being  
(for the most part barren of Childzen, is notwithstanding  
the onely Bed that breeds vp these Serpents? vpon that one  
stake grow all these mischiefes, Shee is the Cockatrice that  
hatcheth all these Egges of euils. When the Diuel takes the  
Anatomy of all damnable sinnes, he lookes onely vpon her bo-  
dy. When she dies, he sits as her Coroner. When her soule  
comes to hell, all shunne that there, as they flie from a bodys  
Brucke with the plague. Here she hath her doze-keeper, and  
shee her selfe is the Diuels chamber-maide. And yet for all  
this, that shee is so dangerous and detestable, when she hath  
croak'd like a Rauen on the Cues, then comes shee into the  
house like a Dove. When her villanies (like the mate about  
a Castle) are rancke, and thicke, and muddy, with standing  
long together, then (to purge her selfe, is she dzeind out of  
the



the Suburbs (as though her corruption were there left be-  
hind her) and (as a cleare streame) is let into the Citie.

What armour a harlot weares comming out of the Suburbs to  
besiege the Citie within the walls.

**V**pon what perch then does she sit? What part plaies she  
then? onely the Puritane. If before she rustled in silkes,  
now is she more ciuilly attired then a Midwife. If before  
she swaggered in Taverns, now with the Snake, shee stir-  
reth not out of doores. And where must her lodging be taken  
vp, but in the house of some Citizen, whose knowne reputati-  
on she borowes (or rather steales,) putting it on as a cloake  
to couer her deformities. Yet even in that, hath she an Art too,  
for she shall be of such a profession, that all commers may en-  
ter, without the danger of any eyes to watch them. As for  
example, she will lie at some Scriueners house, and so vnder the  
colour of comming to haue a Bond made, shee her selfe may  
write *Nouerint vniuersi*. And though the Law threaten to hit  
her neuer so often, yet hath she subtle defences to ward off  
the blowes. If or, if Gallants haunt the house, then spreads she  
these colours: shee is a Captaine, or a Lieutenants wife in  
the Low-countries, and they come with Letters, from the  
souldier her husband. If Marchants resort to her, then hoists  
she vp the sailes, she is wife to the Master of a Ship, & they  
bring newes that her husband put in at the Straites, or at Ve-  
nice, at Aleppo, Alexandria, or Scanderoon, &c. If shopkeepers  
come to her, with what doe you lacke, in their mouthes, then  
she takes vp such and such commodities, to send them to Rye,  
to Bristol, to Wexke, &c. where her husband dwels. But if  
the streame of her fortunes runne low, and that none but A-  
pron-men lanch forth there, then keepe she a politicke scimp-  
sters shop or she starches them.

Perhaps shee is so polliticke, that none shall be vsted to  
board her: if so, then shee sailes vpon these points of the com-  
passe so soone as euer shee is rig d, and all her furniture on,  
forth shee lancheth into those strectes that are most frequen-  
ted: where the first man that she meetes of her acquaintance,  
shall (without much pulling) get her into a Tavern: out at  
blue



Whereunto is added *O per se O.*

him she kisses a breakfast and then leaues him: the next she meetes, does vpon as easie pullies, draw her to a Tauerne againe, out of him she cogs a dinner, and then leaues him: the third man, squires her to a play, which being ended, and the wine offered and taken (for she's no recusant, to refuse any thing) him she leanes too: and being set vpon by a fourth, him she answers at his owne weapon, sups with him, and drinks Vpsie Freeze, till the clocke striking Twelue, and the Drawers being drowzy away they march arme in arme, being at euery foot step fearefull to be set vpon by the Band of Halberdiers, that lye scowling in rug-gownes to cut off such midnight stragglers. But the word being giuen, and who goes there, with come before the Constable, being shot at them, they baile presently and come, shee taking vpon her to answer all the Bil-men and their Leader. Betwene whom and her suppose you heare this sleepey Dialogue, where haue you bin so late: at supper forsooth with my Vncle, here, (if he be well bearded) or with my brother (if the haire be but budding forth) and he is bringing me home. Are you married: yes forsooth: what is your husband? such a Noble-mans man, or such a Iustices Clarke: (And then names some Alderman of London, to whom shee perswades her selfe, one or other of the bench of browne billes are beholding:) where lye you: At such a mans house: *Sic tenues euanesceit in Auras:* and thus by stopping the Constables mouth with Sugar-plummes (that is to say,) whilst shee poisons him with sweete wordes, the punke vanisheth. O Lanthorne and Candle-light, how art thou made a blind Ass: because thou hast but one eye to see withall: Be not so guld, be not so dull in vnderstanding: doe thou but followe alsoose those two tame Pigeons, and thou shalt find, that her new Vncle lies by it all that night, to make his kins-woman one of mine Aunts: or if shee be not in trauell all night, they spend some halfe an houre together: but what doe they: marry, they doe that which the Constable should haue done for them both in the streetes, that is to say, commit, commit.

You Gaurdians ouer so great a Princesse as the eldest Daughter to King Brutus: you twice twelue Fathers and



## The Bel-mans night-walkes,

Gouernours ouer the Noblest Citie, why are you so carefull to plant trees to beautifie your outward walkes, yet suffer the goodliest garden (within) to be ouer-ruine with stinking weedes: You are the pruning kniues that should lop off such idle, such vnprofitable, and such destroying branches from the Vine: The beames of your authoritie should purge the ayre of such infection: your breath of Justice should scatter those foggy vapours, and driue them out of your gates, as chaff is tossed abroad by the winds.

But stay: is our walking spirit become an Orator to persuade: no: but the Bel-man of London, with whom hee met in this perambulation of his, and to whom he betraied himselfe, and opened his very bosome, (as hereafter you shall heare,) is bold to take vpon him that speakers office.

### Of Gingers.

## CHAP. VIII.

Of the knauery of Horse-Courfers in Smith-field,  
discovered.

**A**T the ende of fierce battailes, the onely Randonouz foraine souldiers to retire vnto, is an Hospitall: and at the end of a long Progresse, the onely ground for a tired Trade to runne in, is some blind country faire, whers he may be sure to bee sold. To these markets of vnwholesome Horse-flesh, (like so many Hites to ferde vpon Carrion) doe all the horse-courfers (that roast about the Citie) flie one after another. And whereas in buying all other commodities, men strine to haue the best, how great soeuer the price be, onely the Horse-courfer is of a baser minde, for the worst Horse-flesh (so it be cheape) does best goe downe with him. Becares for nothing but a faire outside, and a handsome shape (like those that hire Whores,) though there be an hundred diseases within: he (as the other) ventures vpon them all.

The first lesson therefore that a Horse-courfer takes out, when he comes to one of these markets, is to make choyce of such Hags, Geldings or Mares, especially, as are fat, faire, and wel-fauor'd to the eye: and because men delight to beholde  
beauti



beautifull colours, are moze delicate (even in beastes) then others are, he will so neare as he can, bargain for those horses that haue the daintiest complexion: as the Bilke White, the Gray, the Tapple Gray, the Cole blacke with his proper marks (as the white star in the fore-head, the white hcele, &c.) Or the bright Bay, with the like proper marks also. And the goodlier proportion the beast carries, or the fairer marks or colour that he beares, are, or ought to be watch-words as it were to him that afterwards buyes him of the horse-courser, that he be not cozened with an ouer-price for a bad penny-worth, because such horses (belonging for the most part to Gentlemen) are seldome or neuer sold away, but vpon some foule quality, or some incurable disease, which the beast is faine into. The best colours are therefore the best cloakes to hide those faults that most disfigure a Horse: and next vnto colour: his pace doth oftentimes deceiue and goe beyond a very quicke iudgement.

Some of these Horse-hunters, are as nimble knaues in finding out the infirmities of a Jade, as a Barker is in drawing of teeth: and albeit (without casting his water) he does moze readily reckon by all the Aitches, Cramps, Cricks, and whatsoeuer disease else lies in his bones: and for those diseases seems vtterly to dislike him, yet if he by looking vpon the Dyall within his mouth, he finde that his yeeres haue struck but five, sixe, or seauen: and that he proues but young, or that his diseases are but newly growing vpon him, if they be outward, or haue but haire and skin to hide them, if they be inward, let him sweare neuer so damnrably, that it is but a Jade, yet he will be sure to fasten vpon him.

So then, a Horse-courser to the Merchant, (that out of his sound iudgement buyes the fairest, the best-bred, and the noblest horses, selling them againe for breede or service, with plainnesse and honesty,) is as the Cheator to the faire Gambler: he is indeede a merre Iadish Monopolitane, and deales for none but tired, tainted, dull and diseased horses. By which meanes, if his picture be drawn to the life, you shall finde every Horse-courser for the most part to be in qualitie a cozenner, by profession a knaue, by his cunning a Charlet, in faires a haggling

The picture  
of a Horse-  
courser.



The *Bel-mans* night-walkes,

ling Chapman, in the Citie a coggling dissembler, & in Smithfield a common forsworne villaine. He will sweare any thing, but the faster hee sweares, the more danger tis to belieue him: In one forenoone, and in seling a Jade not worth five Nobles, will he forswear himselfe fiftene times, and that forswearing too, shall be by Equiuocation. As for example, if an ignorant Chapman coming to beate the price, say to the Horse-courser your Nagge is very olde, or thus many yeeres old, and reckon ten or twelue: he claps his hand presently on the buttocke of the beast, and prays hee may be damb'd if the Horse be not vnder five, meaning that the horse is not vnder five yeeres of age, but that he stands vnder five of his fingers, when his hand is clapt vpon him. These Horse-courseres are called Iynglers, and these Iynglers hauing laide out their money on a company of Jades, at some drunken faire, up to London they drine them, and vpon the Market day into Smithfield brauely come they praucing. But least their Jades should shewe too many horse trickes in Smithfield, befoze so great an Audience as commonly resorte thither, their Maisters doe therefore Schoole them at home after this manner.

*How a Horse-courser workes vpon a Jade in his owne Stable,  
to make him seruiceable for a coursering Race  
in Smithfield.*

How a horse-courser may couzen his chapman with a horse that hath the Glanders.

**T**he Glanders in a horse is so filthy a disease, that he who is troubled with it can neuer keepe his nose cleane: so that when such a foule-nosed Jade happens to serue a Horse-courser, he hath more strange pills, (then a Pothecary makes) for the purging of his head; hee knowes that a horse with such a qualitie, is but a beastly companion to trauell vpon the high way with any Gentleman.

Albeit therefore, that the Glanders haue played with his Nose so long, that hee knowes not how to mend himselfe, but that disease being suffered to runne vpon him many yeeres together is growne inuincible, yet hath our Iyngling Countibanke Smithfield rider, a trick to cure him, five or sixe wapes; and this is one of them.



In the very morning when he is to be ridled away amongst the Carters in Smithfield, before hee thrust his head out of his Masters Stable, the Horse-courser tickles his nose (not with a Pipe of Tobacco) but with a good quantitie of the best Sneezing powder that can be gotten: which, with a quill being blowne vp into the Nostrils, to make it worke the better, hee stands poaking there vp and downe with two long feathers plucked from the wing of a Goose, they being dypt in the iuyce of Garlicke, or in any strong oyle, and thrust vp to the very top of his head so farre as possibly they can reach, to make the pooze dumbe beast auoide the filth from his nostrils, which hee will doe in great aboundance: this beeing done, he comes to him with a new medicine for a sicke horse, and mingling the iuyce of buzzed Garlicke, Harpe byting Mustard, and strong Ale together, into both the nostrils (with a Horne) is powred a good quantitie of this filthy Broth, which by the hand being held in by stopping the nostrils close together, at length with a little sneezing more, his nose will bee cleaner then his Masters the Horse-courser, and the filth bee so artificially stop'd, that for eight or ten houres a Jade will hold vp his head with the proudest Celding that gallops scornefully by him, and neuer haue neede of wiping.

This is one of the Comedies, a Common Horsecourser playes by himselfe at home, but if when he comes to acte the second part abroad, you would disgrace him, and haue him hissed at for not playing the Iuane well, then handle him thus: If you suspect that the Saggie which hee would Jade you with, be troubled with that or any other such like disease, gripe him hard about the welsand pipe, close toward the root of the tongue, and holding him there so long and so forcibly, that he cough twice or thrice, if then (after you let goe your hold) his chappes beginne to walke, as if hee were chewing downe a horse-loafe, shake hands with olde Mounier Caillero Horse-courser, but clap no bargaine vpon it, for his Jade is as full of infirmitie, as the Master of Villanie.



## The Bel-mans night walkes.

*Other Gambals that Horse-courfers practise vpon Foundred.*

*Horses, old Iades, &c.*

**S**mithfield is the Stage vpon which the Mountibanke English Horse-courser aduancing his banner, defies any disease that dares touch his Pzancer: insomuch that if a Horse be so olde, as that foure legges can but carry him, yet shall he beare the markes of an *Ag* not aboue five or seauen yeeres of age: and that counterfeit badge of youth, he weares thus: the Horse-courser with a small round pzon made very hot, burnes two blacke holes in the top of the two outmost teeth of each side, the outside of the horse mouth vpon the nether teeth, and so likewise of the teeth of the vpper chap, which stand opposite to the nether, the qualitie of which markes, is to shew that a horse is but young: but if the *Fade* be so olde, that those teeth are dropt out of his head, then is there a trick still to be fumbling about his old chaps, and in that stroaking his chin, to pzicke his lippes closely with a pin, or a naile, till they be so tender, that albeit hee were a giuen horse, none could be suffered to looke him in the mouth: (which is one of the best Calenders to tell his age) but a reasonable sighted eye without helpe of spectacles) may easily discover this iugling, because it is grosse and common.

If now a horse (hauing beene a soze Traueller) happen by falling into a cold sweate to be foundred, so that (as if he were drunke, or had the staggers) he can scarce stand on his legges, then will his maister, before he enter into the lists of the fielde against all cominers, put him into a villanous chafing, by riding him vp and downe a quarter, or halfe an houre, till his limbes be thoroughly heated, and this he does, because so long as he can discharge that false fire, or that (being so collerick & hot) hee traumples onely vpon soft ground, a very cunning Horseman shall hardly finde where his shoe wzings him, or that he is Foundred. And (to blind the eyes of the Chap-man) the Horse-courser will be euer tickling of him with his wand because hee may not by standing still like an *Esse*, shew of what house he comes.

If a Horse come into the fielde (like a lame souldier) halting, he has not Crutches made for him, as the souldier hath, but



Whercunto is added *O per se O.*

But because you shall thinke the Horses shoemaker hath serued him like a Iade, by not fitting his foote well, the shooe shall be taken off purposely from that foote which halts, as though it had ben lost by chance: and to proue this, witneses shall come in, if at last twenty or thirty damnable oathes can be taken, that the want of the Shooe is onely the cause of his halting. But if a Horse cannot be lusty at legs, by reason that either his hooves be not good, or that there be Splents, or any other Eye-sore about the nether ioynt, the Horse-courser vses him then as Cheating Swaggerers handle Nouices, what they cannot win by Dice, they will haue by foule play: and in that foule maner, deales he with the poore horse, riding him by and downe in the thickest and the dirtiest places, till that dirt, like a ruffled boote drawn vpon an ill fauour'd gowty legges, couer the Iades infirmitie from the eye of the buyer.

*How a Horse-courser makes a Iade that has no stomack,  
to eat Lamb-pye.*

**A**lbeit Lamb-pye be good meat vpon a table, yet it is so offensive to a Horses stomack, that he had rather be fed a moneth together with mustie oates, then to tast it: Yet are not all Horses bidden to this Lamb-pye Breakefasts, but onely such as are dieted with no other meate: and those are Dull, Blockish, Sullen, and heauy footed Iades. Whensoever therefore a Horse-courser hath such a dead commoditie, as a Lumpish slow Iade, that goes more heauy then a Colt when shee trots, and that neither by a sharpe bit, nor a tickling spur, hee can put him out of his lazie and dogged pace, what does he with him then? Onely he giues him Lamb-pye. That is to say, euery morning when the Horse-courser comes into the Stable, he takes vp a tough round cudgell, and neuer leaues fencung with his quarter-staffe at the poore Horses sides and buttocks, till with blowes he hath made them so tender, that the very shaking of a bough will bee able to make the horse ready to runne out of his wits. And to keepe the horse still in this mad mode, because he shall not forget his lesson, his master will neuer come neere him, but hee will haue a sting at him: If he doe but touch him, he strikes him: If he speaks to



## The Bel-mans night walkes.

When there is but a word and a blow: if he doe but looke vpon him, the horse flings and takes on, as though he would breake through the walles, or had beene a Horse bred vp in Bedlam amongst mad folkes. Having thus gotten this hard lesson by heart, forth comes he into Smithfield to repeate it, where the Rider shall no sooner leape into the saddle, but the Horse-courser giuing the Hade (that is halfe scarred out of his wits already) three or foure goods baugs, away flies Bucephalus as if young Alexander were vpon his backe, no ground can hold him, no bridle raine him in, he gallops away as if the Diuell had hired him of some Hackney man, and scuds through thick and thin, as if crackers had hung at his heeles. If his taile play the wag, and happen to whiske vp and down (which is a signe that he does his feats of Attiuitie, like a Tumblers penitence) by compulsion & without taking pleasure in them, then shall you see the Horse-courser lay about him like a threshier, til with blowes he make him carry his taile to his buttocks: which in a Horse (contrary to the nature of a Dog) is an argument that he hath mettell in him and spirit, as in the other it is the note of cowardise.

These and such other base iuglings are put in practise, by the Horse-courser; in this manner comes hee arm'd into the field: with such bad and deceitfull commodities, does he furnish the markets. Neither steps he vpon the Diuels Stage alone, but others are likewise Actors in the selfe same Scene, and sharers with him for no sooner shall money be offred for a Horse, but presently one Snake thrusts out his head, and sings the buyer with false praises of the horses goodnes: Another throwes out his poisoned hooke, and whispers in the chapmans eare, that vpon his knowledge so much, or so much hath been offred by foure or fiue, and would not be taken: and as these Ravens there be sundry nests, but all of them as black in soule as the Horse-courser (with whom they are yoked) is in conscience. This Regiment of Horsemen, is therefore diuided into foure Squadrons, (viz.

1. When Horse-coursters trauell to countrey Faires, they are called Iuglers.

2. When they haue the leading of the Horse, and serue in Smithfield, they are Drouers.

3. They



3. They that stand by and conny-catch the Chapman, either with Out-biddings false praises, &c. are called Goads.

4. The boyes, striplings, &c. that haue the riding of the Jades by and downe, are called Skip-iackes.

*Iacke in a Boxe.*

CHAP. IX.

Of a new kinde of Cheating, teaching how to change gold into Siluer, vnto which is added a Map, by which a man may learne how to trauell all ouer England, and haue his charges borne.

**H**ow many Trees of Euill are growing in this countrey, how tall they are, how mellow is their fruit, & how greedily gathered, so much ground doe they take vp, and so thickly doe they stand together, that it seemeth a kingdome can bring forth no more of their nature, yes yes: there are not halfe so many riuers in Hell, in which a soule may saile to damnation, as there are blacke streames of Mischiefe and Millanie, (besides all those which in our now two voyages wee haue ventured so many leagues vp, for discouery) in which thousands of people are continually swimming, and euery minute in danger vtterly to be cast away.

The Horse-courser of Hell, after he had dustied himselfe with riding vp and downe Smithfield, and hauing his beast vnder him, gallopped away amaine to behold a race of five miles by a couple of Running-Horses, vpon whose swiftnesse great summes of money were laide in wagers. In which Schoole of Horse-manship (wherein for the most part none but Gallants are the Students) hee construed but strange Lectures of Abuses: hee could make large Comments vpon those that are the Runners of those Races, and could teach others how to lose forty, or fifty pound polittickly in the fore-noone, and in the after-noone (with the selfe-same Gelding) to winne a thousand markes in five or six miles riding. He could tell how Gentlemen are fetched in and made younger brothers, and how your new Knight comes to be a Couzen of this Race. He could draw the true pictures of some fellows,

Abuses of  
Race-run-  
ning glan-  
ced at.



that dyet these Running-horses: who for a bribe of forty shillings can by a false Dye, make their owne Maisters loose a hundred pound a race. We could thewe more crafty Foxes in this wilde-goose chase, then there are white Foxes in Russia, and more strange Horse-trickes plaide by such Riders, then Bankes his curtal did euer practise (whose gambals of the tme were the honestest.)

But because this sort of Birds haue many feathers to loose before they can feelee any cold, he suffers them to make their own flight, knowing that prodigals doe but iest at the stripes which other mens rods giue them, and neuer complaine of smarting, till they be whipt with their owne.

In euery corner did he finde Serpents ingendering: vnder euery rooffe some impietie or other lay breeding: but at last perceiuing, that the most part of men were by the sorcerie of their owne diuillish conditions, transformed into Wolves, and being so changed were more brutish and bloody then these that were Wolves by nature: his spleene leaped against his ribs with laghter, & in the height of that ioy, resolved to write the villanies of the world in Folio, & to dedicate them in priuate to his Lord & Maister, because he knew him to be an open handed patron, albeit he was no great louer of Schollers.

But hauing begun one picture of a certaine strange Beast, (called Iacke in a Boxe) that onely (because the Citie had giuen money already to see it) he finished: and in these colours was Iacke in a Boxe drawne. It hath the head of a man, (the face well bearded) the eyes of a Hawke, the tongue of a Lapwing, which saies heere it is, when the nest is a good way off: it hath the stomacke of an Estrich, and can digest siluer, as easily as that bird doth yron. It hath the pawes of a Beare in stead of handes, for whatsoeuer it fastneth vpon it holds: from the middle downe-wards, it is made like a Grayhound, and is so swift of foote, that if it once get the start of you, a whole Kennell of Hounds cannot overtake it. It loues to hunt dry-foote, and can Sent a Traine in no ground so well as the Citie, and yet not in all places of the Citie. But he is best in Senting betweene Ludgate and Temple-barre: & it is thought that his next hunting shall be betweene Lombard-street, and

Iacke in a  
Boxe de-  
scribed.



Whereunto is added *O per se* O.

the Gold-Smiths Row in Cheape-side. Thus much for his outward parts, now you shall haue him bris'd, & see his inward.

This Iacke in a Boxe, or this Diuell in mans shape, wear-<sup>His exer-</sup> ring (like a player on a stage, good clothes on his back) comes cise, to a Gold-Smiths Stall, to a Drapers, a Haberdashers, or into any other shop, where he knowes good store of siluer faces are to bee seene. And there drawing forth a faire new bore, hammered all out of Siluer Plate, he opens it, and pokes forth twentie or forty Twenty-shillings-peece in new Gold. To which heape of worldly temptation, thus much he addes in words, that either he himselfe, or such a Gentleman (to whom he belongs) hath an occasion for foure or five daies to vse forty pound. But because he is very shortly, (may he knowes not how suddenly) to trauaile to Venice, to Ierusalem or so, and would not willingly be disfurnished of Gold, hee doeth therefore request the Citizen to lend (vpon those Fortie Twentie-shillings-peece) so much in white money) but for foure, five, or sixe daies at most) and for his good will, he shall receiue any reasonable satisfaction. The Citizen (knowing the pawne to be better then a Bond) poked downe forty pound in siluer: the other drawes it, and hauing so much gold in hostage, marcheth away with Bag and Baggage.

Five daies being expired, Iacke in a Boxe (according to his bargaine) being a man of his word, comes againe to the shop, or stall, (at which he angles for fresh Fish) and there casting out his line with the siluer hooke, that is to say poking out the forty pound which he borrowed. The Citizen sends in, or steps himselfe for the Boxe with the Golden Diuell in it: it is opened, and the Army of Angels being mustred together, they are all found to be there. The Box is shut againe and set on the stall whilst the Citizen is telling of his money: But whilst this Busicke is sounding, Iacke in a Boxe autes his part in a dumbe shew thus; he shifts out of his fingers another Boxe of the same mettall and making, that the former beares, which second Boxe is filled ouerly with shillings and being poized in the hand, shall seeme to carry the weight of the former, and is clapt downe in place of the first. The Citizen in the meane time (whilst this Pit-fall is made for him)



## The *Bel-mans* night-walkes,

telling the fortie pounds, misseth thirtie or fortie shillings in the whole summe, at which the Iacke in a Box starting backe (as if it were a matter strange vnto him) at last making a gathering within himselfe for his wits) he remembers, he saies, that he laid by so much money as is wanting (of the fortie pounds) to dispatch some businesse or other, and forgot to put it into the bag againe; notwithstanding, he intreats the Citizen to keepe his Gold still, he will take the white money home to fetch the rest, and make by the Summe, his absence shall not be aboue an houre or two: befoze which time he shall be sure to heare of him, and with this the litle Diuel baniseth carrying that away with him, which in the end will send him to the Gallowes, (that is to say, his owne Gold) and forty pound besides of the Shop-keepers, which he borrowed, the other being glad to take forty shillings for the whol debt, and yet is soundly hurt for his labour.

This Iacke in a Boxe, is yet but a Chicken, and hath laid very few Egges, if the Hangman doe not spoyle it with treasuring, it will proue an excellent Hen of the Game. It is a knot of Thetors but newly tyed, they are not yet a company. They flye not like Wilde Geese (in flockes) but like Wites (single) as loath that any should share in their prey. They haue two or thre names, (yet they are no Romanes but errant rogues) for sometimes they call themselves Iacke in a Boxe, but now that their infantry growes strong, and that in it is knowne abroad, that they carry the Philosophers stone about them, and are able of forty shillings to make forty pound, they therefore vse a dead March, and the better to cloake their villanies, doe put on these Masking suites.

1. This art or sleight of changing gold into silver, is called Trimming.

2. They that practise it, terme themselves Sheepe-shearers.

3. The Gold which they bring to the Cittizen, is called Iasons Fleece.

4. The Silver which they picke up by this wandring, is White-wooll.

5. They that are Cheated by Iacke in a Box, are called Bleaters.



Whereunto is added *O per se O.*

**O**h Flæte-streete, Flæte-streete! how hast thou beene trimd, washed, Shauen and Wold, by these deere and damnable Barbers: how often hast thou met with these Sheep-sharers: how many warme fleeces of wooll haue they pulled frō thy backe, yet if thy Bleating can make the flocks that graze neere vnto thee, and round about thee, to lift vp their eies, and to shunne such Wolves and foxes, when they are appzoching, or to haue them wozried to death befoze they sucke the bloud of others, thy misfortunes are the lesse, because thy neighbours by them shall be warned from danger.

Many of thy Callants (**O** Flæte-streete) haue spent hundreds of pounds in thy pzesence, and yet neuer were so much as dzunke for it: but for euery fortie pound that thou layest out in this Indian coōmoditie (of Gold) thou hast a Siluer Box bestowed vpon thee, to carry thy Tobacco in, because thou hast euer loued that costly and Gentlemanlike Smoke. Iacke in a Box hath thus plaid his part. There is yet another Actor to step vpon the Stage, and he seemes to haue good skill in Cosinography, for he holds in his hand a Map, wherein hee hath laide dōwne a number of Shires in England, and with small pzikkes hath beaten out a path teaching how a man may easily, (though not very honestly) trauell from Country, to Country, and haue his charges borne; and thus it is.

He that vnder-takes this strange iourney, layes his first plot how to be turned into a Braue man, which he findes, can be done by none better then by a trusty Tailor: working therefore hard with him, till his suite be granted. Out of the Citie, being mounted on a good gelding, he rides, vpon his owne bare credit, not caring whether he trauell to meete the Sunne at his Rising, or at his going dōwne. He knowes his Kitchin smokes in euery Countrie, and his table is couered in euery Shire. For when he comes within a mile of the towne, where he meanes to catch Quails, setting Spurres to his Horse, alway he gallops, with his cloake off (for in these Be-seidings of Townes he goes not armed with any) his Kat thrust into his Hose, as if it were lost, and onely an emptie paire of Hangers by his side, to shew that he had beene unarmed. And you must note, that this Hot spur does neuer set



## The *Bel-mans* night walkes.

upon any places but onely such, where he knowes (by intelligence) there are store of Gentlemen, or wealthy Farmers at the least. Amongst whom when he is come, he tels with distracted lookes, and a voyce, almost breathlesse, how many villaines set upon him, what gold and siluer they tooke from him, what woods they are fled into, from what part of England he is come, to what place he is going, how farre hee is from home, how far from his iournies end, or from any Gentleman of his acquaintance, and so liuely personates the lying *Greeke*, Synon, in telling a lamentable tale, that the mad *Troianes* (the Gentlemen of the Towne, beleeuing him, and the rather because he carries the shape of an honest man in shew, and of a Gentleman in his apparell) are liberall of their purses, lending him money to beare him on his iourney, to pay which he offers either his Bill or Bond (naming his lodging in London) or giues his word, as he is a Gentleman, which they rather take, knowing the like misfortune may be theirs at any time.

And thus, with the feathers of other birds, is this Monster stucke, making wings of sundry fashions, with which he thus basely flies ouer a whole kingdome. Thus doth he ride from Towne to Towne, from Citie to Citie, as if hee were a Land-Lord in euery shire, and that he were to gather Rents of none but Gentlemen.

There is a Twin-brother to this False-gallopper, and hee cheates Inne-keepers onely, or their Tapsters, by learning first what Countrey men they are, and of what kindred: and then bringing counterfet letters of commendations from such an Uncle, or such a Coozen (wherein is requested, that the Bearer thereof may be vsed kindly) he lyes in the Inne till he haue fetcht ouer the Master or seruant for some Money, to drawe whom to him he hath many hookes, and when they hang fast enough by the gills, vnder water Our Sharke diues, and is neuer scene to swimme againe in that Riuer.

Traueling  
Empericks.

Upon this Scaffold also might bee mounted a number of Quack-saluing Empericks, who arriuing in some Countrey towne, clap vp their Terrible Billes, in the Market-place, and filling the Paper with such horrible names of Diseases, as if

euery



every disease were a Diuel, and that they could coniure them out of any Towne at their pleasure. Yet these Weggery Mountibankes are mere Cozeners, and haue not so much skil as Horse-leeches. The poore people not giuing money to them to bee cured of any infirmities, but rather with their money buying worse infirmities of them.

Upon the same post, doe certaine straggling Scribbling Writers deserue to haue both their names and themselves hung vp, in stead of those faire tables which they hung vp in Townes, as gay pictures to entice Schollers to them: the Tables are witten with sundry kindes of hands, but not one finger of those hands (not one letter there) drops from the Pen of such a false wandring Scribe. Hee buyes other mens cunning good cheape in London, and sels it deare in the Countrey. These Swallowes bragge of no qualitie in them so much as of swiftnesse. In foure and twenty houres, they will worke foure and twenty wonders, and promise to teach those, that know no moze what belongs to an A. then an Ass, to be able (in that narrow compasse) to write as faire, and as fast as a Country Vicar, who commonly reads all the towns Letters.

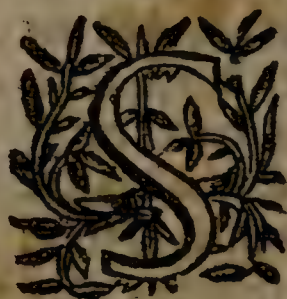
But wherefore doe these counterfeit Maisters of that Noble Science of Writing, keepe such a flourishing with the borrowed weapons of other Mens Pens: onely for this, to get halfe the Birds (which they strue to catch) into their hands, that is to say, to be payed halfe the money which is agreed vpon for the Scholler, and his nest being halfe fil'd with such Gold-Finches, he neuer slayes till the rest be fledged, but suffers him that comes next, to beat the bush for the other halfe. At this Caveere the Rider that set out last from S. witt field, stop'd: and alighting from Pacolet the Horse which carried him, his next journey was made on foot: and so came to the





# THE BELMANS SE- cond Night-walke

## CHAP. X.



Mr Lancelot of the infernal Lake, or the knight Errant of Hell, having thus (like a young Countrey Gentleman) gone round about the Citie, to see the sights not onely within the walles, but those also in the Suburbs, was glad when he saw night having put on the vizard that Hell lends her (called darkenesse to leap into her Coach) because now he knew he should meet with other strange birds fluttering from their nests, and crawling out of their dens. His Prognostication held currant, and the soule weather (which he foretold) fell out accordingly. For Candle-light had scarce opened his eye to looke at the City, (like a gunner showing at a marke) but fearefully (their feet trembling under them) their eyes suspiciously roring from euery nooke to nooke round about them, and their heads (as if they stood upon oyled skrewes) still turning back behinde them, came creeping out of hollow trees, where they lay hidden, a number of couening Bankrupts, in the shapes of Owles, who when the Marshall of light, the Sunne, went by and downe to search the Citie, durst not stirre abroad, for feare of being houted at and followed by whole flocks of vndone Creditors.

But now when the stage of the world was hung in black, they ietted by and downe like prond Tragedians. What thanks they gaue to darknesse! what songs they balladed out in praise of night, for bestowing vpon them so excellent a cloake, wherein they might so safely walke musled! Now durst they, as if they had bene Constables, rap aloud at the doores of those to whom they owed most money, and braue them  
them



them with his words, though he paid them not a penny.

Now did they boldly step into some privileged Tauerne, and there drinke Healths, dance with Harlots, and pay both Drawers and Fiddlers after midnight with other mens money: and then march home againe fearelesse of the blowes that any shoulder clapper durst giue them. Out of another nest flew certaine Murderers and Theeues in the shapes of Screech-owles, who being set on by the sight, did beate with their bold and venturous fatall wings at the very doozes, whereas in former times their villanies had entred.

Not farre from These, came crawling out of their bushes a company of graue & wealthy Lechers, in the shapes of Glow-wormes, who with Gold Tynghing in their pockets, made such a shew in the night, that the doozes of common Brothel-ries flew open to receiue them, though in the day time they durst not passe that way, for feare that noted Curtezans should challenge them of acquaintance, or that others should laugh at them to see white heads growing vpon greene stalkes.

Then came forth certaine infamous earthy minded Creatures in the shapes of Snailles, who all the day time hiding their heads in their shels, least boyes should with two fingers point at them for liuing basely vpon the prostitution of their wiues bodies, cared not now, before candle-light to shoot out their largest Hornes

A number of other monsters like these were seene, (as the Sunne went downe) to venture from their dens, onely to ingender with Darkenesse: but candle-lights eye-sight growing dimmer and dimmer, and he at last falling starke blind, Lucifers Watch-man went stumbling by and downe in the darke.

*How to weane Horses.*

**E**very dooze on a sudden was shut, not a candle stood peering through any window, not a Vintner was to be seene brewing in his Celloz, not a drunkard to be met reeling, not a Moue to be heard stirring: all the Citie shewed like one Bed, and all in that Bed were soundly cast in a sleepe. Noyse made no noyse, for eucry one that wrought with the hammer was put to silence. Yet notwithstanding when euen the Diuell himselfe could haue beene contented to take a nap, there



The Bel-mans night walkes.

The kna-  
very of Ho-  
llers.

Were few Inkeepers about the towne but had their spirits walking. To watch which spirits what they did, our Spy, that came lately out of the Lower countries, stole into one of their Circles, where lurking very closely, he perceived that when all the guests were profoundly sleeping, when Carriers were soundly snoring, & not so much as the Chamberlaine of the house but was laide by, suddenly out of his bed started an hostler, who hauing no apparell on but his shirt, a paire of slipshoes on his feete, & a candle burning in his hand, like old Ieronimo, stepd into the stable amongst a number of poore hungry Hades, as if that night he had bin to ride post to the diuel. But his iourney not lying that way til som other time, he neither bridled nor saddled any of his foure-footed guests that stood there at rack & manger, but seeing them so late at supper and knowing that to ouer eate themselves would fill them full of diseases (they being subiect to aboue a hundred and thirtie already) he first (without a voyder) after a most vnmannerly fashion tooke away, not only all the Prouender that was set before them, but also all the hay, at which before they were glad to licke their lips. The poore horse looked very rudely vpon him for this, but hee rubbing their teeth only with the end of a Candle (in stead of a Corral) told them, that from their Hadish tricks it was now time to weane them: And so wishing them not to be angry if they lay vpon the hard boards, considering all the beds in the house were full, backe againe he stole to his Couch, till breake of day: yet fearing least the sunne should rise to discover his knauerie, by he started, and into the stable he stumbled, scarce halfe awake, giuing to euery Hade a bottle of hay for his breake-fast, but all of them being troubled with the greazie Tooth-ach, could eate none, which their maisters in the morning espying swore they were either sullen or else that prouender pricked them.

This Hostler for this peece of seruice was afterwards preferred to be one of the Groames in Belzebubs stable.

*Another Night-peece drawne in sundry colours.*

Shall I shew you what other bottomes of mischiefes Plu-  
does Beadle saw wound vpon the blacke spindles of the  
Night,



Whereunto is added *O per se O*.

Night, in this his priuy search? In some streetes he met  
Mid-wines running till they sweate, & following them close  
at heeles, he spied them to be let in, at the backe doores of hou-  
ses, seated either in blind lanes, or in by-gardens: which hou-  
ses had roomes builded for the purpose, where young maides,  
being big with child by vnlawfull Fathers: or young wines  
(in their husbands absence at Sea, or in the Warres) hauing  
wastled with batchelers, or married men, till they caught  
falles, lay safely till they were deliuered of them. And for rea-  
sonable sums of money, the bastards that at these windowes  
crept into the world, were as closely now & then sent present-  
ly out of the world, or else were so vnmaunerly brought vp,  
that they neuer spake to their owne parents that begot them.

In some streetes he met seruants, in whose brest albeit the  
arowes of the plague stucke halfe way, yet by cruell Mas-  
ters were they driuen out of doores at midnight, & conuaided  
to Garden-houses, where they either dyed before next mor-  
ning, or else were carried thither dead in their coffins, as  
though they had lyen sicke there before, and there had dyed.

Now and then at the corner of a turning he espied seruants  
purloynng fardels of their maisters goods, and deliuering  
them to the hands of common strumpets.

This doore opened, and Lust with Prodigalitie were heard  
to stand closely kissing: and (wringing one another by the  
hand) softly to whisper out foure or five good nights till they  
met abroad the next morning.

A thousand of these Comedies were acted in dumb shewe,  
and onely in the priuate houses: at which the Diuels messen-  
ger laught so loude that Hell heard him, and for toy rang forth  
loude and lusty Plaudities. But beeing driuen into wonder,  
why the night would fall in labour, and bring forth so many  
Chillaines, whose births she practised to couer (as shee had  
reason) because so many watchmen were continually called  
and charged to haue an eye to her doings, at length he percei-  
ued that Bats (more ugly & more in number then these) might  
flye vp and downe in darknes, for though with their letherne  
Wings they should strike the very bills out of those Watch-  
mens handes, such leaden plummetts were commonly hung



## The Bel-mans night-walkes,

by sleepe at all their eye lids, that hardly they could be awakened to strike them againe.

On therefore he walkes, with intent to hasten home, as hauing fill'd his Table-bookes with sufficient notes of intelligence. But at the last, meeting with the Bel-man, and not knowing what hee was, because hee went without his Lanthorne, and some other implements: for the Man in the Moone was by the most part of the night, and lighted him which way soeuer he turned, he tooke him for some churlish Hobgoblin, seeing a long staffe on his necke, and therefore to bee one of his owne fellows. The Bel-ringer smelling what strong Scent he had in his nose, soothed him by, and questioned with him how he had spent his time in the Citie, and what discovery of Land-villanies hee had made in this Iland voyage: the Mariner of Hell opened his care which he had lined with all abuses: lying either East, West, North or South: hee shewed how he had pricked it, vpon what points he had saide, where he put in: vnder what height hee kept himselfe: where hee went a shore, what strange people he met: what land he had discovered, and what commodities hee was laden with from thence. Of all which the Bel-man drawing forth a perfect Map, they parted. But calling to minde the particular points of his commission: of which a principall one was, that hee should visite prisons, (in his Progressse,) Into a Playe our infernall Catchpoll, the next morning conuaid himselfe. And looking to heare there nothing, but sighing, lamenting, praying and cryings out of afflicted and sorrowne creatures, there was no such matter. But onely a clamorous noise, of cursing Creditors, drinking Healths to their confusion, swaggering, roaring, striking, stabbing one another: as if that all Desper-viewes of sixteene Armies had beene swearing together. Considering the desperate resolutions of some, hee wished himselfe in his owne Territories, knowing more safetie there, then in this Hospitall of incurable mad-men, and could not till about dinner time be perswaded, but that the Playe was Hell, euery roome was so smoakie with Tobacco, and oathes flying faster about, then Tapsters could score by their trothy reckonings. But the time of munching being come,

all



all the sport was to see, how the Prisoners (like Tharking  
Souldiers at the rising of a towne) ranne vp and downe to  
arme themselves against that battaile of hunger. Some,  
whetting knives that had meat, others scraping Trenchers  
alowd, that had no meate: Some ambling downe staires for  
Read and Were meeting another coming vp staires, car-  
rying a platter more proudly aloft, full of powder Beefe and  
Brewis, then an Irish man does his enemies head, on the top  
of his sword. Every chamber shewing like a Cookes Shop,  
where prouant was stirring. And those that had no prouan-  
der in the manger, nor hay in the racke walking vp and down  
like starvd Hades, new ouer-riden in Smithfield. This set  
at Daw being plaid out, all seemd quiet; the water vnder  
London Bridge, at the turning was not more still, but loc-  
king vp being come, that every Cocke must goe to his roost,  
the Musicke of that (in the iudgement of the Blacke Spy.)  
might well enough serue to rock Gran Belzebub asleepe. For  
nothing could be heard, but keyes rapping, doores rapping,  
bolts and locks barring in, Taylors hoarsely & harshly baw-  
ling for prisoners to their bed, and prisoners reuiling & cur-  
sing Taylors for making such a hellish din. Then to heare  
some in their chambers singing & dancing, being halfe drunke:  
others breaking open doores to get more drinke to be whole  
drunke. Some roaring for Tobacco; others raging, and bid-  
ding hels plague on all Tobacco, because it has so dyed by  
their mouthes, with as many other fransicke passions, as  
there be seuerall men; the very report of this Anticke dance,  
would hee thought be better then a Comedie to his infernall  
audience, and therefore tooke especiall note of all the madde  
passages.

In the end, the Bedlamites being drowned more in Were  
then cares, & the Diuels flye buzzing about euery prisoners  
Candle, to spie what they did besides: he saue one sitting on  
his bed and reading a discouery, which he had made in a long  
Voyage; Of the which, whilst the other fell asleepe, he stole  
the papers, and placing them together, sent them to the Bel-  
man, who afterward thus attir'd, sent them into the world.



# The *Bel-mans* night-walkes,

## *Of a Prison.*

### CHAP. XI.

Certaine Discoveries of a Prison by way of Essayes  
and Characters, written by a Prisoner.

**I** Am with dimme water colours to line a Cart, and in it to lay downe the bounds of those tempestuous seas, in which ten thousand are every day tossed, if not overwhelmed. Some doe but crosse over the waters and are Sea-sicke; but not Heart-sicke. Such are happy: To others it is longer then an East Indian voyage, and farre more dangerous. For in that, if of threescore men, twenty come home, it is wel; But in this, if fourescore of a hundred be not cast ouerboard, it is a wonder.

More now then a three-peeres-voyage, haue I made to these infortunate Ilands: a long lying haue I had vnder Hatches, during which time, my Compasse neuer went true. No Star of comfort haue I sailed by: no Anchor to cast out. Top-saile, Sprit-saile, Mizzen, Mayne-sheat, Botlings, & Drablers are all tozne by the windes: & the Barque it selfe is weather-beaten, that I feare it shall neuer touch at the Capo Bona Speranza.

What haue I hereby gotten, but a sad experience of my owne & others miseries? I can onely say what I haue seene, and tell what others haue felt.

This man hath spzed a full Saile, & by helpe of skilfull Pilots, made a saue arrivall. That men hauing as faire a wind, hath beene cast away in the same Hauen. A Fly-boat hath broken that Sea in which an Argozy hath bene drowned: for the greatest courages are here wack'd: the fairest reuenelwes do here run aground: the noblest wits, are here confounded.

So that I may call a Prison an Inchanted Castle, by reason of the Rare Transformations therein wrought: for it makes a wise man lose his wits, a foole to know himselfe. It turnes a rich man into a begger, and leaues a poore man desperate.

He whom neither Snowes nor Alpes can vanquish, but hath a heart as constant as Hannibals, him can the misery of a Pri-



son direct. And how braue an outside soeuer his mind carries, open his bosome and you shall see nothing but wounds.

Art thou sicke in Prison: Then art thou sicke in health: Into a Consumption art thou fallen in thy best strength, when thy body is most able, fullest of blood, courage and binacitie. And when a fit of this Ague takes thee, thou growest more lame then a Bull tied to a wilde Figge-tree.

Art thou Olde and in Prison? By a bad Compasse hast thou Sayle, that hauing gone round about the trouble of the world, (without shipwack) art now cast away in the sight of those.

Art thou young and in Prison? Be not like a drunkard set in the Stocks (Insensitiue of thine owne harmes.) It is but a Surfet of Ryot, and a good dyet may restore thee. Fortune hath enozened thee with false Dice, & therefore take heed how thou plaieest againe. A happy chance may set vp the Young man: the Olde man neuer. Impzisonment is an Audit-booke, to both: the one casts vp his account, and findes himselfe in arrearages irreconuerable. The other hath but mistooke a summe, and so made a false reckoning.

Hast thou gotten other mens goods into thy hands, and so liuest on them in pzison? thou deseruest no pittie, that tyest thine owne hands, & makeest thy selfe a voluntary Gally-slauie, onely to weare golden fetters. The Gallowes whereon the poore thiefe hangs is fitter for thee; hee robs but one: Thou whole Families: Hee is a Fellow to man onely: Thou to God and Man: euery Angell of Gold that flies into thy Coffers with such stollen wings, will be turned into a Diuell, and stand round about thy death-bed to torment thee, & hale away thy soule to an Euerlasting Prison.

Impzisonment to thee is a Sactuary, thou art a robber bozne out by Law, and art worthy by Law to be bozne to one Execution more, which may take off all the rest.

Art thou full of money in pzison? Thou art a ship fraught full of Wines in a Tempest, it makes the Maister Pilot and our owner drunke, and then all is cast away. Anoid these draughts: for Ryot in a Prison, is dancing in shipwacke; it is Blasphemy, in Thunder, & cursing in a ture of pestilence: The name of a Good-fellow is thereby gotten. But thou payest too



## The *Bel-mans* night walkes.

too deare to a Lapland Witch for a knot full of winder. The Siluer here saued, is to thy wife a Dowry, to thy childezen Portions, to thy selfe a Reuenew.

Prodigall expence in a Mayle, is to call for more Wine in a Tauerne, when thou canst not stand.

Art thou in prison and full of wants, then art thou a feld of baripe corne, lodged by the winde and raine, thy glozy defaced, and thy golden Eare emptied. yet a Sun may shine And when it dyes, ply it, and thou maiest bzing home a plentifull haruest.

Art thou pooze, and hast not health : Health in Prison is Wealth.

Art thou sicke, then art thou at the lowest step of pouertie, hauing nener so much. In a Prison two Armies bend their forces against thee, (Pouertie & Death.) They March in one and the same Wing : Pouertie in the Front, and Death in the Reare. If thou escapest the first & breakest through his shocks, yet the other which hath (abroad) a hundred is here furnished with ten thousand Arrowes to pay thee home.

Art thou pooze and in prison : then art thou buried before thou art dead. Thou carriest thy winding sheete on thy backe vp and downe the house. Thou liest vpon thy Weere, & treadest vpon thy Graue at euery step. If there bee any Hell on earth, heere (thou especially) shalt be sure to finde it. If there be degrees of Torments in Hell, here shalt thou tast them. The body is annoyed with sicknesse, Stench, Hunger. Colde, Thirst, Penurie. Thy minde with discontents, thy soule with in-betwixterable sorrowes, thine eye meetes no Obiect, but of Horror, Wretchednesse, Beggery, and Tyranny.

Yet to thee that art in Prison one comfort remaineth, being the same which makes Banishment easie to a man exiled: for he shall find some (to what country soeuer he be confined) that liue there for their pleasure: and so in a Mayle are Doore-keepers, Officers, Messengers, &c. In respect of whom thy life comparatiuely is not miserable.

I make not an Orchard, but a priuate walke or rather a small Garden-plot, set with Pot-hearbs for the kitchen.

The which I write is not a booke, but a meere Rhapsodie of



of mine owne disturbed cogitations. This first is no Tree, but a young Plant newly budded, from whose tender branches, thus much I gather: That imprisonment is a distillation, for at one and the same Lymbecke, doe we draw forth, the bitter waters of mens oppressions with our owne sorrowes: and the sweete waters of patience; if wee can haue the stomacke to beare them.

## CHAP. XII.

### Of Prisoners.

**H**ope to escape this wracke, albeit thou swimmest sitting on a Mast: The Ocean hath both a Hoze and a bottome. Cities on fire burne out of themselves, no misery is endlesse. It behooueth a Prisoner to say as Caesar did to the Pylot, when he was afraid, (thou carriest, quoth he, Caesar) so euery generous minde ought to be armed with noble resolution, to meete all stormes of aduersitie, and hauing met them, to bid them welcome, and being once entertained, to be rid of them as well as he can.

*Redime te captam, quam queas minimo.*

If thou canst purchase Ransome, beate the market and buy as cheape as thou canst: but if thou must be forced to rowe in the Gallies, settle to thine owne Dare with patience, and spetting in her face, let this triumph be thine.

*Maiores sum quam cui possit Fortuna Nocere.*

Suppose a naked bosome against all her Darts, & since thou art in the Welues pawes, be contented, (for sauing of the flesh), to haue wooll and skiu torne off.

For know, thou art not in a Prison to dance on Rushes, but to climbe Craggy Rockes, to tread on Thornes, and to march ouer stony Mountaines; in which thy feete and minde must trauell together, and both keepe a steady pace; so that thou must be armed to endure the Battle with dauntlesse resolution: For this is a warre that affordeth no rest, & therefore we must not onely play the manly, but the wise Souldiers, fight and stand Sentinell too.



But why is the name of a Prison loathsome to thee? Is it because thou art Comp'd by under Lock & key? Or is it because thou feelest wants? Hadst thou the Ayre free as the fowles of it haue yet thy soule must be a prisoner to thy body: and thy body commonly be a subiect & slaue to base & bitious passions. It is not imprisonment that is euill vnto thee, but the euill in thy selfe makes that so distastful, a Bird in the Cage sings as sweetly as that in the field: and thou being in prison mayest so phylick thy sicke Fortunes, that thy mind neuer tooke hold of more Noble libertie; dost thou grieve because thou hast not Sea-room enough? A poore Wherry on the Thames, is safer then a vast Argozy dancing on the maine Ocean.

As for wants: Hadst thou all things in the world, Thou wouldest wish more, and lacke much more then thou wishest for: no King hath alwaies content, and no poore man is euer sad. If thou hadst free scope to walke the streets: of some crosses thou wouldest complaine. But in prison thou shouldest not feare nor fret to be hit with any Bullet, because thou knowest how many can be shot against thee.

What want dost thou grieve at? It is no other Sunne Thines on thee but the same: no other ayre breaths in thy face but the same: no other earth beares thee but the same: & in the same shalt thou be buried. That Mother wil neuer chang her loue; none in this portion are dis inherited for Bastards.

But art thou in Prison and doe friends forsake thee: yet doe not thou forsake thy selfe: the farther they fly from thee, the closer sticketh thou to thine owne Guard.

Lye in an unholsome bed, fowle sheetes, & with a loathsome bed-fellow; there will be a lodging one day for thee, where thou shalt haue no cause to complaine of these abuses.

Art thou clap'd in yrons, and throwne currishly into a Dungeon, out of which the Sun is shut: Care not; mourne not: There is an eie that can pierce through Locks and Doors of yron to looke vpon and pittie thee. And a hand which (with out bribing the frozen palme of a Taylor) can turne all keyes, and through the narrowest Grate, can put in Bread of comfort to feede thee, whilst thou art drinking the waters of thine owne affliction.



Whereunto is added *O per se O*.

Warlets and Catch-poles arrest thee: Fret not at it: if the Law hath power to whet an Axe; the must pik out a Hang man to smite. The Mace that arresteth thee, is in a hand Omnipotent: that is thy Sergeant: And his Mace is the Mace of Office, not of Anger. Yes, it is of Anger, but not of Indignation. An action is brought against thee onely to draw thee to a reckoning, and make thee know what thou owest to Heauen, as well as to man. Thou art beaten with a Rod, not to draw bloud but Teares: not to dzyue thee into dispaire, but amendment.

Summon a Parlee therefore, and although thou hast a heart neuer to yeeld vnto thine enemy, yet make a Rendition of that strong fort of resolution thou keepest, be it vpon terms somewhat ignoble, & inclining to losse. How valiantly soeuer thou couldest be armed (euen to the death) to hold out for thyne owne proper end, Yet haue a care of those that are within thee. Few Trees are shaken downe by a storme, and fall alone, but others kisse the earth with them. I verily thinke that the brauest spirited Prisoner in the world, would with a cheereful looke thrust his neck into the poke of Aduersitie, and manfully defie the threats of an insulting Creditor, were not more veines to be cut then his own. But the poorest wretch dying in a prison, hath some or other lying in the Coffin with him: with thine eye-strings (whosoever thou art) crack at the last gasp the heart-strings of a wife, of children, of a father, or mother, of friends, or allies. For these art thou bound in the bonds of Nature, to take pittie of thy selfe, and to hang out a Flag of truce to thy bloody minded Creditor, & for Ransome to pay all, so thou maist march away with life onely.

But say thou hast none of these respects to tye thee yeelding. Thou art a Traytor to thy Countrey, if thou giuest vp thy selfe into thy enemies hands, when vpon noble termes thy peace may be made.

Live not in a Prison, but come forth that thou mayest benedite thy selfe, dye not there, but live that thou mayest doe seruice to thy Countrey.

Pay thy Debts so farre as thou canst, because the most heauie debts that euer thy Soule did owe, were paid for thee.



## The Bel-mans night walkes.

If one man would bee chained to the Galley, all his life time to free all Christians from Turkish thraldome, haue all the scornes scored on his head, all their blowes on his backe, endure all their hunger and thirst, and be laden with all their yrons, what a noble friend were such a Man? How much should those be ingaged to him; whom he had freed from such flauery. Greater bonds then these haue beene cancelled for thy sake. One man was surstie for all the debts of all Mankind, no Baile else would bee taken: the Principall in the Bond was let goe: the Suretie onely was looked for. Hee was Arrested by Iewes, sued and taken in Execution, the Iewes are figures of merclesse Creditors: he that answered the Law, an Embleme of the poore Debter. He was imprisoned in the graue three dayes, and watched by Paylozs, but yet arose and went abroad in despite of his Keepers. A type of comfort, that the miseries of a prisoner are not euermaking. A day shall come when your crucifying Iewes will behold him (whom they tyrannized ouer) triumphing in glozy. Bee this a soueraigne Balme to the deepest wound of a prisoner.

I haue hitherto fitted thee (that art a prisoner) with armes of prose against imprisonment and pouertie. I will now giue thee a Buckler to beare off the blowes of Death. And heare it is. Feare not to die in the hated bed of a Prison, since that last day ridz thee of all mens oppressing malice, and is the Birth-day of Eternitie.

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## CHAP. XIII.

### *Of Creditors.*

A Creditor hath two paire of hands, one of flesh and blood which Nature giues him, another of yron which the Law giues him. The first holds a Dagger to defend: the second a sword to strike: of these two, the lesse hath power ouer the great; the soft warmth of the one, being able to melt the hardnesse of the other. And that neuer happens but when Grace and Mercy, kille Law and Iustice. Such dayes are seldom set downe in common Calendars? for a strange Meridi-



Whereunto is added *O per se O.*

an is that Almanacke calculated in which they are found.

And yet I haue seene a Creditor in a Prison weepe when he beheld the Debtor, and to lay out money of his owne purse to free him: he shot a second Arrow to finde the first. But suppose he shot both away; thinke you his sheafe was the lesse, or Diuer more emptie? No: I beleue he scattered a handfull of Corne, and reaped a Bushell he laid out, and God paid. And so he got more by putting it to such account, then the debt came too: Pay, by this meanes he became Debtor to his Debtor (with such an Ouer-plus does the Steward of the high Court loue to pay honest arrerages.)

Had he receiued the money due to him, it had beene spent, and perhaps done him no good, but the interest being paide out of the King of Heauen his custome-house, was an euermorelasting Monopoly to his soule.

Thou that art a Creditor, wilt not beleue this: Doe not. But in stead of that mans weeping, make thou thy Debtor melt into feares: Drowne him in the waters of his eyes: breake his heart with his owne sighs: laugh at thy full table, that thou hast him fast, and wilt make him famish: and in bed (to thy wife) sweare to plucke money out of his throte, or he shall lye by it. And when thou hast so spoken, pray that God would forgive thee thy debts, as thou forgivest others: Dost thou not sleepe vpon the pillowe of thine owne damnation? That prayer to God is a curse vpon thy selfe. Thou mockest him to whom thou prayest: but he will not mocke thee.

Hast thou thy Debtor in Prison, and wilt thou keepe him there, cast by thy accounts, and vpon the foote of it, note what thou gaineest. Thou seest a Tree with all the fruit beaten off, and thou bevest it downe because thou canst gather no more, when all is gone. A building is ready to fall, and thou dost not vnderprop, but vndermine it. And when its downe makest no vse of the timber to saue, but in mercilesse rage utterly consumest it in fire: What is this, but to kill thy brother, hauing him at thy mercy: to wzing a stranger out of his Vineyard of purpose to starue him: to compell thy Vassall to make more Brickes, when straw and stufte is taken from him. Thou dost not for a few pierces of siluer, betray one better then thy selfe,



## The Bel-mans night-walkes,

but for one piece betrayest many: What a heuy scoze art thou  
to wipe off for thy crueltie.

First, for the groanes, sighs, bleeding heart of a wretched  
Husband. Then for the teares, wringing of hands, and con-  
dolement of a languishing wife: next for the cries, starving  
and beggering of innocent children. And lastly, for the sad  
lookes of vndone seruants. This is the scoze, and here is the  
paiment.

As thou pluckest thy Debtor by the throate, and criest out,  
He shall pay the vtmost penny. So the Diuell will one day  
take thee by thine, and cast thee into vtter darkenesse. How  
much better were it for thee to giue all away, and finde an in-  
estimable Jewell, then thus by taking all away to loose that  
Jewell and thine owne soule.

If to kill a man by conspiracy, be murder in the highest de-  
gree (in the eye of the Lord chiefe Justice of Heauen & Earth)  
what does hee commit, who by lingring tortures is killing  
of a man (in prison) a yeere, two three, yea seauen: nay halfe  
his life time? At what Barre will hee be arraigned? I pro-  
test (by my hopes of Eternall inheritance) I would not bee  
guilty of a mans death (after this maner,) to be Heyre to the  
greatest King in the world. This *Homo-Damon* (Man-Diuell)  
when hee is once Anthropophagized, and longs for humane  
flesh, no fury is so cruell.

Man is a sacred thing, yet (by thee) a man is murdered iniest  
For a body fashioned to his makers Image; a payre of Dyce  
are taken by a despightfull Creditor. Such a one is a Cheator  
of life, not of living.

These words (He shall rot in Prison) or I will make Dice of  
his bones are worthy of a Turke, but fit for a Christian: No  
man speaks them (but a Monster) no man but a Diuell: No  
Diuell, but a thing without a name worse then a Diuell,  
who hauing no power giuen him to torment, will snatch the  
Diuine vengeance into his owne hand. How knowest thou  
whilest thou threatnest another, thy selfe may be stricken: And  
that tongue of thine cleaue to thy throate for lying?

The same minute (in the very Court of the Kings-Bench  
of Heauen,) Waile can be taken to free that poore Prisoner  
from



from that tyrannie of rotting: no tricke of Clarkes, or Keepers shall stop his passage. Hee will haue his *Quietus est*, without tearing his heart in pieces for money by a sort of hungry Lawyers.

Thou swearest to make Dice of his Bones, but the graue shall claime them, and make thee forsworne. Hee shall lye there in peace, and thou stinke about ground in the nostrils of God and man: Hee shall dye happy and thou liue miserable, (daily and nightly tormented with the fury of thine own conscience, and his memorie.

Thou art but a Foole to be cruell: for thou whetttest a knife to cut thine owne fingers. And shalt for saying I will make (Dice of his Bones) bee as infamous, as the Iewes are hatefull, for casting Dice for their Lords garment. That garment which they diced for, was but a senselesse thing, But thou castest Dice for a piece of thy Redeemers body.

I haue heard of some Pyrats who carrying in their Ship the rich Vessels and Vestments of the Church; broken and cut in piecies, to make money of them: a storme hath risen, & (within eye sight of those) ship and men haue beene swallowed vp in the Sea (a quicke and iust triall for such theeuers) destroyers of Temples neuer die, but by such vengeance.

I protest before my Maker, I would not in scoorne strike the Picture of Christ, breake in pieces the Image of a holy Martyr, no nor spoyle, (or so much as deface) the monumental graue of mine enemy: But more then Sacriledge dost thou commit, that ruinst a Tempel in which thy builder dwels. And how many of these Temples dost thou lay flat with the earth in one yeere: Nay perhaps in one satall Terme.

Thou takest (with one clap of a Charlets hand) from the Courtier, his Honor: from the Lawyer his tongue: from the Merchant the Seas: from the Citizen his credit: from the Scholler his preferment: from the Husbandman the Earth it selfe: from all men, (so much as thou canst, the very brightness and warmth) of the Sunne in heauens.

Rufus a King of England) to make one Forrest to hunt in, pulled downe foure Abbeyes, and seauenteene Churches. He was slaine with an Arrow at his sport in the laze Forrest.

But



The Bel-mans night-walkes,

But thou destroyest so many Cathedral Churches in oue man;  
that huntest him to death in a Prison.

Rufus was punished in body; take heede lest thy soule pay  
for it. Doe not all these Hammers (beating on thy heart)  
soften it? Oh mettall of Hell: Heere is the last blow I will  
giue it.

In being cruell to thy Debtor; thou art worse then a com-  
mon Hangman; Hee before he strikes begges forgivenessse.  
Thou takest a pride to condemne; when thou mayest saue;  
and (Nero-like) dauncest, when the most glorious Cittie is  
on fire.

But it may be thy priuate estate is sicke, and weakely; and  
thou to Physicke it, art compelled to breake into Gardens of  
thine owne, which are locked from thee by other mens hands.  
In doing thus, thou doest well: If any weare thy coate, and  
thy selfe goest a cold, thou art not to be blamed if thou plucke  
it off from his shoulders. But if hee that borrowed thy coate,  
hath now worne it out, and hath not a ragge to couer him,  
wilt thou trample vpon his naked bosome? If with the Jew  
(instead of money) thou demaundest a pound of flesh next to  
thy Debtors heart, wouldst thou cut him in pieces? If he offer  
to giue thee the bed he lyes on, the dish he drinks in, his owne  
chamber for thee to sleepe in, (and to sit shivering in the cold.)  
If he turne himselfe, Wife, and Childzen as poore into the  
world, as they are to goe out of it (nay not so rich neither by a  
sheet) and that he leaue himselfe nothing to pay thee all, wilt  
thou for all this suffer him to die in the hands of the Lawe?  
Thou wilt: what art thou: a Murderer.

I will teach thee to auoide that name, and that sinne: One  
Key forward does it; Bee mercifull. Clemency in the eye of a  
Iudge sits not more sweetly: then pitie in the eye of a creditor:  
next to a Kings this is her Throne, because life and death  
are their sentence. To be tender hearted to him that cannot  
pay thee, what is it: Is it any more then to lift a sicke man vp-  
right vpon his pillow, & to giue him a little more ease. That  
man may recouer and doe as much for thee.

Thou art bozne with teares in thine eyes for thine owne  
miseries, and shouldst, (whilest thou stayest heere) be ener  
weeping



Whereunto is added *O per se O.*

Weeping at the miseries of others. For in thrusting forth such soft hands, thou dost but saue a man from drowning: leade a blinde Begger into his way: lend a glimpse of a Candle to one in darknesse.

It is but a warming at the fier: the giuing of crummes from thy boord to the starued. Wouldst thou haue the Sun of mercie shine on thee? Be a burning glasse then: and those beames which glance on thy face to comfort thee, reflect thou backe againe, for the comforting of others.

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## CHAP. XIII.

### *Of choice of company in Prison.*

**W**ouldst thou read the wonderfull woorkes of God: they are largeliest written in the Seas, get then thither: wouldst thou diue into the secret villanies of Man: lye in a Prison.

The good may be made better there, but the bad are sure to be worse. It is a Magicke booke, which some reading feele no danger. Others (but turning oze a leafe) raise by Diuels to teare themselves in pieces.

Societie is the string at which the life of man hangs, without it is no musicke; two in this make but an Anyson.

Adam had his Eue. And euery sonne of Adam hath a brother, whom he loues. No Charyot runnes with one wheele, two make it steady, a third is superfluous, foure too cumber some. Thou must choose one and but one: who walkes alone is lame.

Men of all conditions are forced into a Prison: as all sorts of Rivers fall into the Sea, and when two meete, the current is more swift and easie.

No prisoner should be without his twynne, considering they are bozne so fast. For if like a Tortois thou hidest thy selfe in a shel, thou art vnknowne both to thy selfe and others. No man can take his owne colour, the Tincture must be giuen by another.

By counsell then is, that thou be sociable to all: acquaint-



The *Bel-mans* night walkes.

fed with few: trust not to any, or if any. (I sing the first note)  
not above one: and first make triall what the bestell holds;  
before thou powrest thy selfe into it.

To be a *Boole* for every *Alley*, and runne into all companies, proues thy mind to haue no *Epas*. It is like a *Traveller*, who in severall countries, takes by many lodgings, and hath a thousand welcomes, but they are not to him but his money.

If thou wilt consist and dwell by thy selfe, bee not giddie but composed: for he that is every where, is no where. The wound of imprisonment is not cured with many medicines.

Remember that coming to a *Prison*, thou enterest heart-sicke into an *Inne*, where thou hadst more need of *Juleps* and *Restoratives*, then of a soft bed.

A dangerous *Fever* shakes thee, and therefore take heede what *Physicion* thou lightest vpon.

Thou sailest not in the maine *Ocean*, but in a *Creeke* full of quick-sands, and comest safe to shore, or art wacked according as thou choolest thy *Pylet*. Thy flight from the open world, profits thee nothing: what thou art gone from, is with thee.

The *prison* grates of a *Prisoner* let in the same vices which flew through the gates of a *Citie*. If thou carriest the cause of evils to a close prisoner, they lodge in the same bed thou art laide in. Mend therefore thy companion, & thou healest thy selfe.

I haue all this while but grinded colours: now will I draw the face of him with whom I wish thee (that art a prisoner) to hold conuersation.

*Disparitie* of minde begets difference of manners: And that difference, *Dissention*.

Since therefore thy companion must (of necessitie) grow on the same *Tree* with thee. It is fit he should be of the same colour and tast, of which thou thy selfe art. Let him be like a *Dye*; Euen, Square, Smooth, and True: to runne, so neere as thou canst, neither higher nor lower, then thou that art to runne with him.

If his fortunes be above thine, yet in the carriage of thy minde, lift it by to a height to equall his fortunes.



Whereunto is added *O per se O.*

As he bad whom thou takest by the hand: doe thy best to make him good. As he good: be thou ashamed to be otherwise.

Let him haue some learning, he will be vnto thee a winged hower-glasse, to send away the minutes of aduersitie merrily. Or if thou canst not get one with learning, be sure hee comes furnished with wit; his tongue will be a sweete chyme, to rocke thy cares and his owne a sleepe.

If he hath both wit and learning, and yet want honesty, venture not, (in a Sea so dangerous) into him. Thou shalt sayle into a goodly ship full of hoales.

A talkatiue vaine-glorious foole, will be a disease vnto thee.

A common drunkard will lye heavier then an Execution.

Leane not to a Willow that bowes euery way, nor lye in the nest where a Swallow buildes. It is a chattering Bird, and tels abroad what is done at home. And no man (I thinke) would dwell in a house full of nothing but windowes, for euery eye to spee what he is doing.

But if thou hast suffered a man to sleepe long in thy bosome, albeit his conditions be full of flaws, yet rather laboz to piece and cement by his vices, then to cast him off, lest it call thine owne iudgement and choyse into question.

All men haue imperfections, and being in prison we must not looke to haue them. Starres: This place is no Orbe for such Constellations. Their shining (heere) if they haue any, must be to themselves: Prisoners are base Mineralls (hid-den and buried vnder earth) and as all metalls haue their ambition, we must be contented if there they aspire to Leade or Tynne: Mines of Gold and Silver are to be found in the palaces of Kings.

Thy companion happily may not be thy bedfellow: Call therefore him not thy Bedfellow, who is familiar with thee in thy Chamber, and scoznes to looke vpon thee in the Parlor: part sheetes with such a man: the earthie smell of such dead familiaritie turnes thy Bed into a Graue wherein thou art buried aliue.

Choose therefore thy Bedfellow, as Swannes doe their mates, if the female company with another, the male kins



## The *Bel-mans* night walkes.

him. So if he that lyes by thee all night loues other companie better (all day) then thine, leaue him; such sullen Birds haue either Peacocks feathers, or Dawes feathers; and when Pride and Ignorance lie together, wit very seldome puts out a wing.

I haue giuen thee a payze of Ballance to weigh thy selfe and thy friend in. It must be thy care to haue a steddie hand to hold them. As are the weights which thou throwest in; so looke to haue thy counterpayze set downe. Art thou conuersant with an Atheist: thy name will be enrolled on the same Style: Is thy companion a miserable base fellow? Piggardlinesse will hold her fingers on thy purse strings. The fellowship of Prodigals will draw thee to Ryot; of Adulterers to Lust; of Swearers, to damnd oathes; of Pot-companions, to drunkenesse.

Acquaint thy selfe therefore not with the most, but the best: not the best in cloathes or money, but the best in doing best, or doing well. Are there none such in prison: keepe companie then with thy selfe, and in thy chamber talke with Plutarch or Seneca: the one will teach thee to liue well, the other to dye well.

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## CHAP. X V.

### *Of Visitants.*

**T**he country that holds this Nation, is narrow, and therefore a little Chorographv will describe it. I take them to be Sabarites, who are inuiting their Guests to a Banquet a twelue-month before, and a yere after they come. I will therefore without (Circomferentor or any other Geometrical instrument) giue you the true Superficies, or Area of this Cyprian and louing Island; for you must know it is no maine.

The old acquaintance of a prisoner, are people standing on the shore to behold a Ship-wacked-man labouring in the Sea for life: euery one pitties his misery. But (amongst all) to haue one, (that well may doe it, for strenght of body, courage and Art in swimming) to leape amongst the Willowes,  
and



Whereunto is added *O per se O.*

and faue such a forlozne Creature! there's the rare patterne of true compassion.

It is no Hospitalitie for a rich man to open his gates and bid strangers (that haue new dined) to eate his meate. But to plucke a hungry begger in! thats true Charitie.

Seldome haue you seene a bottle of Hay brought to a horse in the pound: It is thought he cannot stay there long, & that he hath a body able enough to endure hunger; and therefore no prouender is giuen him; So fares it with a Prisoner.

*Nullus ad amissas ibit amicus opes;*

From a ruinous house euery man flies. They that aske euery day (abroad) how thou doest (when thou art in Prison) and protest they are sorry for thy misfortunes, yet neuer come to thee: are like idle passengers pressing about a Barbers doore when a man is carried in wounded. They peepe in and climbe about the windowes, but dare not enter into the shop, for feare they should s wound to see him dzest. A Prisoner is as much beholden to such leape frog acquaintance, as a man shaken with an Ague is to euery gossiping woman he meets: He shall haue five hundred medicines taught him for one disease, and not one worth the taking.

They practise one of our Fencers distances (called the Longe) and cannot abide to come to the Cloze: tis dangerous. But when the weapon of fortune (which beates thee) is out of her hand, and that after struggling with her thou takest breath, and art at libertie: Then a hundred armes will be stretched wide open to meete thine: A Marriner new come from Sea, is no more welcome home to his wife, then thou art to them. Dathes (thicke as haile shot) flie into thy bosome: That they were coming to thee aboue fortie times, and still were intercepted. But let thy answer be to them, that those Ships are strangely winde-bound that cannot hoyst sailes once in a yeare, and get out of the Haucn. The Witches of Norway belike sate vpon the Dathes.

A small end of a coard saues a man from dzrowning: and a finger of a friend to a Prisoner, is a full hand.

They that cheere vp a Prisoner but with their sight, are



## The *Bel-mans* night-walkes,

Robin-Red-breasts : that bring strawes in their bills to couer a dead man in extremitie; such acquaintances grow like Strawberries in a barren countrey : You shall hardly in a day gather a handfull.

Account those therefore in whose societie thy purse hath beene ever open; and whose hands are shut to thee in Prison; but as dunghills on which the Sunne hath shined: for his golden beames, they pay stinking and vsauory smells. Doe they hold thee as dead and buried in a Flayle: when thou shalt rise againe and walke, appeare vnto them but as a shadow.

As a sicke man, when he hath no stomacke, will make triall if he can eate : So when thou hast least want of money, bee most importunate to borrow of him, whose mouth hath ever beene full of golden promises to thee. If then (the tree being shaken) but one Apple fall into thy lap, the taste of that is sweeter then of twenty before, when thou hadst a full stomacke. If a man doe then but rake abroad his embers to giue thee heat and does it freely, it is a noble friend. He does best, and loue him best, for it is a blacke Swan. But put not the Bucket too often into the Well: Brewers haue sometimes complained that the Thames hath beene without water.

In thy wants of money, let thy pen neither dig the Wyne too often: nor in too many places: Letters are but bladders, to fill which, a Prisoner keepes a puffing and blowing : But they to whom they are sent, let all out in the very opening. Papers are Beggers ragges, and not regarded. As lame Souldiers, so are prisoners answered with one word, I haue not for you Letters are a meate onely to make Hope fat, and to starue a Prisoner.

How quickly is this Waize of friends troden out : why should I winde any more vpon this Bottome, when a whole Kingdome can scarce affoord stuffe to doe it : Of such Pearle tis hard to make a Bracelet to goe about a mans arme. And therefore till I finde a Shell full of them, I will string no more.

CHAP.



## CHAP. XVI.

## Of laylors.

**A**S Lawes are the sound action on which Kingdoms are grounded: So when that ground failes, there followes a ruine: If therefore a member be infected, *Ense recidendum est*: Spare not the cutting of a hand, to saue a heart.

To keepe the sicke from the sound, were prisons invented: for a man in debt hath the sicknesse of the Law vpon him. If Creditors had not power to fets to fets for their money, all men in the world would still borrow, but neuer pay. And that's the cause Justice is pictured with a sword in one hand, and a paire of ballance in the other: the Scales weigh out the money she lends And if you keepe not your day, she must giue you a cut to remember it. She is likewise painted blind. Some say it is her owne Embleme against Bribery: but I thinke rather she hath lent her eyes to so many of her Ministers, that now she wants them her selfe. Of which ranke a Lawyer of a Prison being one that most is in neede of eyes, & in neede of most eyes, her sight doth he borrow, and it may be her sword too: with which if sometimes he strikes, the blow is to be borne, because he is the executing hand of the Law.

He that keepes a Prison, walkes continually in a whirlewinde, and would loose his very cloake from his backe, clap he not it close to his body. He must struggle and wrestle, and blow, and all little enough to get t'rough; and shall be sure euermore to be in a cold sweate.

It is no wonder therefore if an inclination borne with innated smoothnesse warpe, (here) and be crabbed. He that failes to the Indies, must looke to be Sunne burned; and he that liues amongst the Cothes and Wardals; will smell of their harsh conditions.

An officer of this Character, hath not a bosome like a Doue (all Downy) but rather the backe of a Porcupine, Bucke full of Quills, ready to be shot euery minute, because euery Minute hee shall be made angry. The very place it  
selfe



selfe will vndoe all the wheeles of the best composed spirit, and set them out of order. It cannot choose but make a wilde disposition rough, and a temperate froward. Where his heart soft as wooll: In this Stone-quarry it will soone growe to a Flint to haue fire striken out of it.

I mislike not, that a King in his wrath hangs vp Rebels. That a Iudge of the Bench be seuer: That a Souldier in the fielde play the Lyon: That a master for adue fault, giue due punishment, nor that the Keeper of a Prison beare a rugged browe. For he is not the Keeper of a Prison, but the Keeper of a Forrest, full of Lyons, Panthers, and Beares, who if they were not tyed vp would worry him, and vndoe themselves.

The Prisoner cries out, hee lyes vpon an ill bed: But vpon what bed sleepest his Keeper? I thinke hee sleepest vpon none: I thinke hee cannot sleepe: for his pillow is not stuff with Feathers but with feares. Euery Prisoner lynes vnder the waight of his owne Debts, but his Keeper fees the burden of all. And yet it may perhaps oftentimes fall out, that (in a wilde furie) thou maist curse thy Keeper, for holding thee strictly in. why dost thou raile at thy Physitian for giuing thee Pills, and yet art sicke by a voluntary surfet: Thou hast a rotten limbe, and yet stabbest thy Surgeon that comes to cut it off. If thou wilt compell a man to challenge thee into a Fence-Schoole, thou must bee content to beare blowes; and if thou wilt needes runne into debt, thou must at the next step be sure to runne into danger.

In Prison thou art in Hell, and must looke for nene but horned Diuels to torment thee.

There can be no Musicke in that instrument which is euer out of tune. And therefore how soeuer the lookes or conditions of thy Keepers are, finde not fault with them, for they are their owne, and not to be altered.

The fauour of a Prison-keeper is like smoke out of Cold-Harbor Chinnepes, scarcely seene once in a yeare. Hee is a Bell in a time of sicknesse, that more often rings out for Burials, then viuiue seruice. If his eye chance to glance out pitie, it is but a painted Gally-pot in an Apothecaries shoppe,



containing that in it that is able to kill thee. And (yet notwithstanding thou art continually to handle Nettles,) thou mayest so touch them that they shall neuer sting thee.

If thou walkest abroad with a Keeper vse him friendly, but not respectiue. So mannage him, that he may thinke himseife beholden to thee, not thou to him. For howsoeuer he salueth vpon thee with complementall standing bare, and officious attendance, yet know he serues in his place, but as the Dogge the Butcher.

Hee is to thee as a Curre to a droue: if thou goest on quietly (be it to the slaughter amongst griping Lawyers, and cruel aduersaries,) he waites gently and brings thee to the very doore: But if thou offer to stray, he worries thee.

Remember his eye shootes at two whites. Thy Person and thy Purse. The one he is to guard, the other must finde him. Thou art compelled to protect thy carcasse vnder his shelter, as a sheepe vnder a byer (in a terrible storm,) & be sure for thy standing there, to haue some of thy wooll torne off.

Thus Seneca of the Destinies, we may accuse the Destinies longer, but cannot change them: they continue obstinate & obdurate, no man can moue them with vpbraides, or teares or perswasions, they acquit no man of any thing, they pardon nothing.

Spare therefore Teares because they are vnprofitable. So  
I of Iaylors.

### *Of Canting.*

#### CHAP. XVII.

How long it hath beene a Language: how it comesto  
bee a Language: how it is deriued: and by  
whome it is spoken.

**B**Ecause in this Discourse ensuing, much speech is had of One Language, you shall therefore know how it grew to bee a Language. When all the World was but one Kingdome, all the People in that Kingdome spake but one Language. At the beginning, neither by Sea nor Land, but



## The *Bel-mans* night walkes.

but he met his Countrey-men and none others. Two could not then stand gabbling with strange tongues, and conspire together (to his owne face) how to cut a third mans throte: but he might vnderstand them. There was no Spaniard in that age) to haue his enemy in the rich and leſtie Caſilian: no Romane Orator to pleade in the Rethoricall and Fluent Latine: no Italian to court his Mistrisse in the ſweete and amorous Tuscane: no Frenchman to parley in the full & ſtately phrase of Orleans: no Germane to thunder out the high and rattling Dutch: the vnfruitfull crabbed Irish, and the voluble ſignificant Welch were not then ſo much as ſpoken of: the quicke Scottiſh Dialect (ſiſter to the Engliſh) had not then a tongue, neither were the ſtrings to the Engliſh ſpeech (in thoſe times) vntied. When ſhe firſt learned to ſpeake, it was but a broken language: the ſingleſt and the ſimpleſt words ſlowed from her utterance; for ſhee dealt in nothing but in Monosyllables, (as if to haue ſpoken words of greater length would haue crackt her voyce) by which meanes her eloquence was poozeſt, yet hardeſt to learne, and ſo (but for neceſſitie) not regarded amongſt ſtrangers. Yet afterwards thoſe nobleſt languages lent her words and phrases, and turning thoſe borrowings into good husbandry, ſhe is now as rich in Elocution and as abundant, as her proudeſt and beſt ſtozed neighbours.

English  
tongue  
compa-  
rable to  
the beſt.

whiſt thus (as I ſaide beſore) there was but one Alphabet of Letters for all the world to read by: all the people that then liued, might haue wrought vpon one piece of worke in countries farre diſtant aſunder, without miſtaking one another, and not needing an Interpreter to run betweene them. which thing Nymrod (the firſt Idolater) perceiuing, and not knowing better how to employ ſo many thouſand millions of Subjects as bowed beſore him: a fire of Ambition burned within him, to climb vp ſo high that he might ſee what was done in heauen. And for the purpoſe, worke-men were ſummoned from all the corners of the earth, who preſently were ſet to build the Tower of Babel. But the maſter worke-man of this great Vniuerſe (to checke the insolence of ſuch a ſawcy builder, that durſt raiſe vp Pinacles equall to his owne  
(aboue)

Building  
of Babel.



(above) commanded the selfe same Spirit, that was both bred in the Chaos, & had maintained it in disorder, to be both Surveyor of those workes, and controller of the Labourers. This Messenger was called Confusion. It was a Spirit swift of flight and faithfull of service. Her looks wild, terrible and inconstant: her attire carelessly loose, and a thousand severall colours. In one hand she grip'd a heape of stormes, with which (at her pleasure) she could trouble the waters: in the other she held a whip, to make three Spirits that drew her, to gallop fast before her: the Spirits names were Treson, Sedition, & War, who, at every time when they went abroad, were ready to set Kingdoms in an uproare. She rode upon a Chariot of clouds, which was alwayes furnished with Thunder, Lightning, Windes, Raine, Hailestones, Snow, and al the other Artillery belonging to the service of Divine Vengeance: and when she spake, her voice sounded like the roaring of so many Torrents, boisterously struggling together, for betweene her iawes did she carry 1000000. tongues.

Confusion described.

This strange Linguist stepping to every artificer that was there at worke, whispered in his eare: whose looks were there upon (presently fill'd with a strange distraction: and on a sudden, whilst every man was speaking to his fellow, his language altered, and no man could understand what his fellow spake. They all stared one upon another, yet none of them all could tell wherefore they so stared. Their tongues went, and their hands gave action to their tongues, yet neither words nor action were understood. It was a noise of a thousand sounds, and yet the sound of the noise was nothing. He that spak, knew he spak well: and he that heard, was wad that the other spake no better. In the end they grew angry one with another, as thinking they had mocked one another of purpose: so that the Mason was ready to bricke the Bricklayer, the Bricklayer to beat out the braines of his Labourer: the Carpenter tooke up his Axe to throw at the Caruer, whilst the Caruer was stabbing at the Smith, because he brought him an Hammer when he should have made him a Chizzel. He that called for Timber, had Stones laid before him: when one was sent for Nayles, he fetcht a Tray of Morter.

B. ginning of language.



## The Bel-mans night-walkes,

Thus Babel should haue bin raised, and by this meanes Babel fell. The Frame could not goe forward, the stuffe was throwne by, the workemen made holyday: Every one pack'd by his Toolles to be gone, yet not to goe the same way that he came, but glad was he, that could meete another whose speech he vnderstood: for to what place soeuer he went, others (that ran madding by and downe) hearing a man speak like themselves, followed only him: so that they who when the worke began were all Country-men, before a quarter of it was finished, fled from one another, as from enemies and strangers. And in this manner did men at the first make by Nations: thus were words copned into Languages, and out of those Languages haue others been moulded since, onely by the mixture of Nations after Kingdomes haue beene subdued. But I am now to speake of a People and a Language, of both which (many thousands of yeres since that Wonder wrought at Babel) the world till now neuer made mention: yet confusion neuer dwelt moze among any Creatures. The Bel-man (in his first Voyage which he made for Discoueries) found them to be Sauages, yet liuing in an Island very temperate, fruitfull, full of a noble Nation, rarely gouerned. The Lawes maners, and habits of these Wild-men are plainely set down, as it were in a former painted Table. Yet lest happely a stranger may desire to looke vpon this second picture of them who neuer beheld the First, it shall not be amisse (in this place) to repeate ouer againe, the Names of al the Tribes, into which they Diuide themselves, both when they Serue abroad in the open fields, and when they lye in garrison within Townes and walled Cities.

*And these are their Rankes, as they stand in order, viz.*

**R** Vffelers.  
Vpright-men.  
Hookers, *alias* Anglers.  
Rogues.  
Wilde Rogues.  
Priggers of Prancers.

Pallyards.  
Fraters.  
Prigges.  
Swadlers.  
Curtals.  
Irish Toyles.

Swigmen.



Whereunto is added *O per se O.*

Swigmen.

Iarkemen.

Patri-coes.

Kitchin-Coes.

Abram-men.

Mad Tom, *alias* of Bedlam.

Whip-Iackes.

Counterfet Crankes.

Dommerats.

Glymmerers.

Bawdy-Baskets.

Autem Morts.

Doxies.

Dells.

Kitchin-Morts.

Into this many Regiments are they now diuided : but in former times (aboue foure hundred yeeres now past) they did consist of five Squadrons onely.

- Viz.* { 1 Cursitors, *alias* Vagabonds.  
2 Faytors.  
3 Robardesmen.  
4 Draw-latches  
5 Sturdy Beggars.

And as these people are strange both in names and in their conditions, so doe they speake a Language (proper onely to themselves) called Canting, which is moze strange. By none but the Souldiers of these rotterd Bands it is familiarly or usually spoken, yet within lesse then fourescore yeares (now past) not a word of this language was knowne. The first inuentor of it was hangd, yet left he apt Schollers behind him, who haue reduced that into Method, which he on his death-bed (which was a paire of Gallowes) could not so absolutely perfect as he desired.

It was necessary, that a people (so fast increasing, and so daily practising new and strange Villanies) should bozrow to themselves a speech, which so neere as they could) none but themselves should vnderstand : and for that cause is this Language, (which some call Pedlers French) inuented, to the intent that (albeit any Spies should secretly steale into their companies to discover them) they might freely utter their mindes one to another, yet auoid the danger. The language therefore of Canting, they study euen from their Infancy, that is to say, from the very first heure that they take vpon them the names of Kitchin Coes, till they are growne Rufflers, or Vpright-men, which are the highest in degree amongst them.



## The Bel-mane night-walkes,

This word Canting seemes to be deriued from the Latine Verbe (canto) which signifies in English, to sing, or to make a sound with words, that is to say, to speake. And very aptly may canting take his deriuation, a cantando from singing, because amongst these beggerly consorts that can play vpon no better instruments, the language of canting is a kind of musicke, and he that in such assemblies can cant best, is counted the best Musitian.

Now as touching the Dialect or phrase it selfe, I see not that it is grounded vpon any certaine rules; And no maruell if it haue none, for sit hence both the Father of this new kinde of Learning, and the children that study to speake it after him haue bene from the beginning, and still are the Breeders and Nourishers of all base disorder, in their liuing and in their Manners: how is it possible, they should obserue any Method in their speech, and especially in such a language, as serues but only to vtter discourses of villanies?

And yet (euen out of all that Irregularity, vnhandsomnes, & fountaine of Barbarisme) do they draw a kind of forme: and in some words, (as well simple as compounds) retaine a certain salt, tasting of some wit and some Learning. As for example, they call a cloake (in the canting tongue) a Togeman, and in Latine, Toga signifies a Cloake, or an vpper garment. Panam is bread: and Panis in Latine is likewise bread: Cassan is Cheese, and is a word barbarously coynd out of the Substantiue Caseus, which also signifies Cheese. And so of others.

Then by ioyning of two simples, doe they make almost all their compounds. As for example: Nab (in the canting tongue) is a head, & Nab cheate is a hat, or a cap: Which word cheate, being coupled to other words, stands in very good stead, and does excellent seruice: For a Smelling cheate, signifies a Nose, a Prattling cheate, is a tongue: Crashing cheate, are teeth: Hearing cheates, are Eares: Fambles are Hands: and there-upon a ring is called a Fambling cheate: A Muffling cheate, signifies a Mapkin. A B lly cheate, an Apron: A Grunting cheate, a Pig: Cackling cheate, a Cock or a Capon: A Quacking cheate a Ducke: A Lowghing cheate, a Cow: a bleating cheate, a Calfe, or a Sheepe: and so may that word be married to many others besides.

The



Whereunto is added *O per se O.*

The word Coue, or Cofe or Cuffin, signifies a Man, a Fellow, &c. But differs something in his properties, according as it meetes with other words: For a Gentleman is called a Gentry Coue, or Cofe: A good fellow is a Benet ofe: a Thurle is called, a Quier Cuffin; Quier signifies naught & cuffin (as I said before) a man: and in Canting they terme a Justice of peace, (because hee punisheth them belike) by no other name then by Quier cuffin, that is to say, a Thurle, or a naughty man. And so, Ken signifying a house, they call a prison, a Quire Ken, that is to say, an ill house.

Many pieces of this strange rogne could I shew you, but by these small samples you may iudge of the greater.

Now because a language is nothing else, then leapes of words, orderly wouen and composed together: and that within so narrow a circle as I haue drawne to my selfe, it is impossible to imprint a Dictionary of all the Canting phrases: I will at this time not make you surfet on too much: but as if you were walking in a garden, you shall onely plucke here a flower, and there another, which (as I take it) will be more delightfull then if you gathered them by handfuls.

But before I leade you into that walke, say and heare a Canter in his owne language, making Rithmes, albeit I thinke those charmes of Poesie which (at the first) made the barbarous tame, and brought them to civility, can vpon these savage monsters worke no such wonder. Yet thus he sings (vpon demaund whether any of his owne crew did come that way) to which he answers, presently he.

*Canting rithmes.*

**E** Nough with bowse Coue maund Nace,  
Four the Patring Coue in the Darkeman Case,  
Docked the Dell for a Coper-meke,  
His watch shall seng a Prounces Nab-cheate,  
Cyarum by Salmon, and thou shalt pek my Iere,  
Inthy Gan for my watch it is nace gere.  
For the beene bowse my watch hath a win, &c.

This short Lesson I leave to be construed by him that is desirous to trie his skill in the language, which hee may doe by helpe of the following Dictionary; into which way that he may



## The *Bel-mans* night walkes.

may more readily come, I will translate into English, this broken French that followes in prose. Two Canters hauing wrangled a while about some idle quarrel, at length growling friends, thus one of them speakes to the other. viz.

*A Canter in prose.*

**S**towe you beene Cofe; and cut benar whiddes, and bing we Rome vile, to nip a boung: so shall we haue lowre for the boung ken, and when we bing backe to the Dewese a vile, we will filch some Dudes, off the Ruffinans, or mill the Ken for a lagge of Dudes.

*Thus in English.*

Stowe you beene cofe: hould your peace good fellow.  
And cut benar whiddes: and speake better words.  
And bing we to Rome vile: and goe we to London.  
To nip a boung: to cut a purse.  
So shall we haue lowre: so shall we haue money.  
For the boung Ken: for the Ale house.  
And when we bing back: and when we come backe.  
To the Dewse a-vile: into the Countrey.  
We will filch some Duddes: we will filch some clothes,  
Off the Ruffinans: from the hedges.  
Or mill the Ken: or rob the house.  
For a lagge of Duddes: for a bucke of clothes.

*Now turne to your Dictionary.*

**A**nd because you shall not haue one dish twice set before you, none of those Canting words that are englished before, shall here be found: for our intent is to feast you with variety.

*The Canters Dictionary.*

**A**Vtem, a Church.

Autem-mort, a married woman.

Boung, a purse.

Borde, a shilling.

Halfe a borde sixe pence.

Bowse, drinke.

Boung Ken an Ale-house.

Bene, good.

Beneship, very good.

Buse,



Whereunto is added O per se O.

Buse, a Dogge.

Bing a wast, get you hence.

Caster, a cloake.

A Commission, a shirt.

Chates, the Gallowes.

To cly the Ierke, to be whipped.

To cut, to speake.

To cut bene, to speake gently.

To cut bene whiddes, to speake good words.

To cut quier whiddes, to giue euill language

To Cant, to speake.

To couch a hoghead, to lye downe asleepe.

Drawers, Hosen.

Dudes, cloathes.

Darkemans, the night.

Dewse-a-vile, the countrey.

Dub the Giger, open the dooze.

Fambles, hands.

Fambling Chere, a King.

Flag, a Goat.

Glasiers, eyes.

Gan, a mouth.

Gage, a Quart-Pot.

Grannam, Cozne.

Gybe, a writing.

Glymmer, fire.

Gigger, a dooze.

Gentry Mort, a Gentlewoman.

Gentry cofes Ken, a Noble mans house.

Harmanbeck a Constable.

Harmans, the Stockes.

Heaue a bough, rob a Booth.

Iarke, a Seale.

Ken, a House.

Lage of Dudes, a Bucke of cloathes.

Libbege, a Bed.

Lowre, money.

Lap. Butter, Milke, or Whay.

Libkin, a House to lye in.



The Bel-mans night walkes.

Lage, Water.  
Light-mans, the day.  
Mynt, Gold.  
A Make, a Halfe-peny.  
Margery prater, a Hen.  
Mawnding, asking.  
To Mill, to steale.  
Mill a Ken, rob a house.  
Nosegent, a Nun.  
Niggling, companying with a woman.  
Pratt, a Buttocke.  
Peck, meate.  
Poplars, Pottage.  
Prancer, a Horse.  
Prigging, Kiding.  
Patrico, a Priest.  
Pad, away.  
Quaromes, a Body.  
Ruff-peck, Bacon.  
Roger or Tib of the Buttery, a Goose.  
Rome-vile, London.  
Rome-bowse, Wine.  
Rome-mort, a Queene.  
Ruff-mans, the woods oz bushes.  
Ruffian, the Diuell.  
Stampes, legges.  
Stampers, shoes.  
Slate, a sheete.  
Skew, a cup.  
Salomon, the Masse.  
Stulingken: a house to receiue stolne goods.  
Skipper, a barne.  
Strommell, straw.  
Smelling chete, an Orchard oz Garden.  
Toscowre the Cramp-ring, to weare bolts.  
Stalling, making oz ordaining.  
Tryning, hanging.  
To twore, to see.  
Wyn, a penny.  
Vayne, milke



Whereunto is added O per se O.

And thus haue I busied by a little Mint, where you may  
coyne words for your pleasure. The payment of this was a  
debt for the Bel-man at his farewell (in his first Round  
which he walked) promised so much. If he keepe not touch,  
by tending the due Summe, he desires forbearance, and if any  
that is more rich in this Canting commoditie will lend him  
any more, or any better, hee will pay his loue double: In the  
meane time receiue this, and to giue it a little more waight,  
you shall haue a Canting Song, wherein you may learne, how  
This cursed Generation pray, or (to speake truth) curse such  
Officers as punish them.

*A Canting Song.*

**T**He Ruffin cly the nab of the Harman beck,  
If we mawnd Pannam, lap, or Ruffe peck,  
Or poplars of yarum: hee cuts, bing to the Ruff-mans,  
Or else he sweares by the light-mans,  
To put our stamps in the Harmans.  
The Ruffian cly the Ghost of the Harmanbeck,  
If we heaue a Booth we cly the Ierke.

If we niggle, or mill a bowfing Ken,  
Or nip a bounge that has but a win,  
Or dup the giger of a Gentry cofes ken,  
To the quier cuffing we bing,  
And then to the quier Ken, to scowre the Crmpe-ring,  
And then to the Trin-de on the chares, in the lightmans,  
The Bube and Ruffian cly the Harman beck and Harmans.

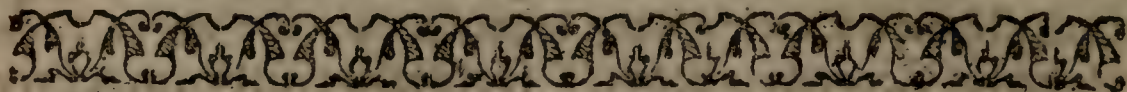
*Thus Englished.*

**T**He Diuell take the Constables head,  
If we beg Bacon, Butter-milke or bread:  
Or Pottage, to the hedge he he bids vs hie,  
Or sweares (by this light) i'th stocks we shall lie:  
The Diuell haunt the Constables Ghost,  
If we rob but a Booth, we are whipt at a post.



## The Bel-mans night walkes.

If an Ale-house we rob, or he take with a Whore,  
Or cut a purse that hath in it a penny and no more,  
Or come but stealing in at a Gentlemans doore,  
To the Justice straight we goe,  
And then to the Tayle to be Shackled: And so  
To be hang'd on the Gallows i'th day time: the pop  
And the Diuell take the Constable and his stocks.



And now to our Discourse of *O per se O*, vnder  
which name, the Author disguising and sha-  
dowing himselfe; thus begins.



**Y** I shall knowe that seruing (in the late  
Queenes time) many yeeres together in the  
office of an High-Constable, in that Countie;  
wherein I now dwell, I drawe from the exa-  
mination of such lewd persons as came be-  
fore mee, the trueth of all those villaines  
which here I publish.

In the mustring of this damned Regiment, I found, that  
whether they were Rogues taken in Romboyles (that is to  
say, in watches or wards) by the Petty Harman Beck, who  
in their company, signifies a petty Constable) or whether  
they were such as in the Tancing tongue are called Mawn-  
ders (of begging or demaunding,) whether they liued in Bow-  
ling Kennes (Ale-houses) or what other course they led of life  
soeuer any of them spun, it was euer wound in a blacke bot-  
tome of the most pernicious making by that the Diuell could  
teach them: insomuch that albeit the very Sun-beames could  
possibly haue written downe the discovery of any grosse vil-  
lanies, by them committed, they would as easily venture by  
an damning, in deniall of it with oathes, as if there had bene  
no Hell for such offenders.

For my better painting forth these Monsters, I once tooke  
one of them into my seruice (being a sturdy, big-limbe young  
fellow) of him I desired some knowledge in their gibbish, but  
he



he swore he could not Cant, yet his Rogue-ship seeing himselfe bled kindly by mee, would now and then shoote out a word of Canting, and being thereupon asked why with others he denied it before, he told me that they are sworne neuer to disclose their skill in canting to any householder, for if they do, the other Mawnderers or Rogues, Mill them (kill them,) yet he for his part (he saide) was neuer sworne, because he was a Clapperdodgeon, that is to say, a Begger borne. This Clapperdodgeon staid with me so long as he durst, and then bingd a Waste in a darkmans, stole away from me in the night time. So that what intelligence I got from him, or any other trained bp in the same Rudiments of Roguery, I will briefly, plainly, and truly set downe, as I had it from my diuellish Schoole-master, whom I call by the name of O per se O.

Of him I learned, that the cause why so many of this wicked Generation wander bp and down this Kingdome is, the free commaund, and abuntant vse they haue of Women: for if you note them well in their marching, not a Tatterdemalion walkes his round, (be he young, or be he olde) but he hath his Mort, or his Doxie at his heeles (his woman, or his whoze) for in hunting of their rascall Deere this Lawe they hold, when they come to strike a Doe, if she will not wap for a wyn, let her Trine for a make, if shee will not---O per se O for a penny, let her hang for a halfe-penny.

And this liberty of wenching is increased by the almost infinite numbers of tippling houses, called Bowling Kennes, or of Stalling Kennes, that is to say, houses where they haue ready money for any stolne goods: vnto which nestis, birds lie of the same feather, that the owner is of: for if the Seller be a Horse stealer, a Cat-purse, a Robber by the highway, a Cheater, &c. of the same coate are his guests. These houses are the Purseries of Rogues and Thieues: for how could they bestow cloakes, sheetes, shirtes and other garments being stolne, if they had not Stalling Kennes to receiue them? why should Gunners (Pigs) see whirling out of the world, hauing their throates cut by rogues, if they had not Bowling Kennes to eat them in? In the Peruoy of whose ragged Assemblies, the Be-man a little



## The Bel-mans night-walkes,

Hooke himselfe, for Priggers, Filchers, and Cloiers being all (in English) stealers, vse neither Roast-meate, nor Spits in their Feasting, as hee furnisheth them, but when they intend to strike a hand, they leuie their dainable troopes in the day, but they sally forth, and share the spoiles in the night. For some one sturdy hel hound aboue the rest, vndertakes to be the Miller (that is to say, the Killer: ) I hope this can be no disgrace to any honest Miller, who is no thiefe with a false Hopper: And this killer brings to the slaughter house of the Diuell (viz: a Bowsing Kenne) a Bleating cheate, (a Sheepe) Another, Mils a Crackmans, breakes a hedge, and that wood heates the Duen, whilest the sheepe is dressed, cut in pierces, and put into earthen pots, made for the purpose to bake their victuals in. The Duens mouth being thus dawbed vp, out flye the little Diuels more dambde then the Duen) either to breake an house some two or thre miles off, or to doe as bad a Willany The piece of seruice being performed, a Retraite is sounded, and about midnight they retorne merrily, fall to their good cheere manfully, and then diuide their spoyles of stolne shirts, smokes, or any thing else most thèuishly. In which Partnership the Host and Hostesse are chiefe sharers, but such subtile shopkeepers are these Haberdashers of the Diuels small Wares, that they neuer set out to sell, but when the coast is cleare, and that (as Thæues doe among Brokers) the Hue and Cryes throat be stoppt that went bawling after them: for about a seuenth-night after, (when all is hushed) to the Stalling Kenne goes the Duds for Lowre, to the thèuig-house are the stolne cloathes sent roundly for money: which being told out and diuided, away flye these Rauens scatteringly, the next prey that they light vpon, being euer at some Faire, or else a Market.

And now that we talke of Faires, let my pen gallop ouer a few lines, and it shall bring you (without spurring) swiftlier into Glocester-shire, then if you rode vpon Paolet: there if you please to alight neare Tewks bury, at a place called Durrest-Faire, being kept there vpon the two Holy-Roode dayes) you shall see more Rogues, then euer were whipt at a Carts-arse through London, and more Beggars then



then euer came dropping out of Ireland. If you looke vpon them, you would thinke you liued in Henry the sixts time, and that Iacke Cade and his rebellious rag-amuffins were there mustering. Dunkirke cannot shew such sharkes. The wilde Irish are but flockes of wilde Geese to them. And these swarmes of Locusts come to this lowlie Faire, from all parts of the Land, within an hundred miles compasse. To describe the Booths is lost labour, for let the Hangman shew but his wardrop, and there is not a rag difference betwene them. None here stands crying, What doe you lacke? for you can aske for nothing that is good, but here it is lacking. The buyers and sellers are both alike, talwie Sunne-burnt Rascals, and they flocke in such troopes, that it shewes as if Hell were broke loose. The Shopkeepers are Theeves, and the Chapmen Rogues, Beggars and Whores: so that to bring a purse full of money hither, were madnesse: for it is sure to be cut.

But would you knowe what Wares these Marchants of Cele-skinnes vtter: onely Duds for the Quarrons, that is to say, cloathes for the body, which they haue pilfered from hedgges or houses. And this filthy Faire begins befoze day, and endeth befoze nine in the same morning: at which breaking vp, they doe not presently march away with their bags and their baggages: but he who is chosen the Lord of the Faire, (who is commonly the lustiest Rogue in the whole Bunch) leades his tottered foot-men & foot-women from Ale-house, to Ale house, where being armed all in Ale of pzoofe, and their Ben Bowse (the strong Liquor) causing them to haue Nase Nabs (drunken Corecombes) by sling they the Cannes, downe goe the Booths, about fye broken Jugges: heere lyes a Rogue bleeding, there is a Wozt cursing, here a Wozie stabbing with her knife: and thus this Faire which begins merrily, ends madly: for knaues set it vp, and Queanes pull it downe.

Yet to meete at this assembly (how farre off soeuer they be) they will keepe their day, though they hop thither vpon one crutch: and it is for seauen causes that thus they bestir their stumps to be at this vpsitting, which are these, viz

1. Every



## The Bel-mans night-walkes,

1. Every one as his rogue-ship is of bulke, or can best swagger, desireth to be chosen Lord of the Fayre: or if hee loose his Lordship, yet to be a retainer at least, and to fight vnder his tottered colours.

2. To meete with the Sister-hood and Brother-hood of Whores and wallet mongers.

3. To share such money as is taken for (Dude Cheates wonne) clothes and things stolne.

4. To know how the world goes abroad, what newes in the Deuile, the Country, and where is Benship (Good) or where (Quire) Paught.

5. To be Bowtie, drunken for company.

6. To bandy their tawne and weather-beaten forces of Mawnderers (being of their owne fraternitie) against any other troope of Mountibankes, at any other Fayre or Market, where the lowlie Randeuouz is to be made.

7. Lastly, to enact new warme orders for fresh stealing of cloakes, &c. with all manner of Armour for the body, but especially, Stamps (Shooes) because (being Beggars) they are seldome set on horse-backe.

These are the seuen halters that drawe these Bel-hounds to his Fayre, for the least of which seuen, they will venture a hanging.

The Fayre is broken vp, and because it is their fashion at the trussing vp of their packs, to trudge away merily, I will here teach you what O per se O is, being nothing else but the burden of a Song, set by the Diuell, and sung by his Quire: Of which I will set no more down but the beginning, because the middle is detestable, the ende abominable, and all of it damnable.

Thus it sounds:

Wilt thou a begging goe,

O per se O, O per se O.

Wilt thou a begging goe?

Yes verily, yea.

Then thou must God forsake,

And to stealing thee betake:

O per se O, O per se O.

Yes verily yea, &c.

This



This is the Musicke they vse in their Libkens (their lodgings) where thirty or forty of them being in a swarme, one of the master Diuels sings, and the rest of his damned crue follow with the burden : In which mid-night Catterwallings of theirs, nothing is heard but cursing and prophanation, and such swearing, as if they were all knights of the Post. Jewes did neuer crucifie Christ with more dishonour, then these Rake-hels, who with new inuented fearefull oathes teare him in pieces : and no maruell, for most of those who are beggers bozne, are neuer Christened : besides, they haue in their Canting, a word for the Diuell or the Plague, &c. as Ruffin for the one, and Cannikin for the other : but for God they haue none : only they name him, but it is not in reuerence, but abuse : all their talk in their nasty Libkens, (where they lye like Swine) being of nothing, but Wapping, Niggling, Prigging, Cloying, Filching, Cursing, and such stufte. who therefore would pittie such impostors, whose faces are full of dissembling, hearts of villany, mouthes of curses, bodie of sores (which they cal their great Cleynes) but laid vpon their flesh by cunning : whose going Abram (that is to say naked) is not for want of cloathes, but to stirre by men to pity, and in that pity to cozen their deuotion : now whereas the Bel-man (in his priuy search) found out the nest of these Screech-Owles, pulling off some of their feathers, only to shew their uglines, but for want of good and perfect eye sight, not slaying off their skinner, as I here purpose to do, and so to draw bloud, I will finish that which the Belman (by being ouerwatchd) left lame, and shew those abuses naked to the world, which he neuer discovered.

First therefore shall you behold the Abram-man in his true colours, his right shape, his owne ragges, and then shall you heare the phrase of his Mawnd or begging.

Next him comes marching the Counterfeit Souldier, with his Mawnding note too. At his taile follow Ben-seakrs I bes, (that is to say) Counterfeiters of Passé ports

Then Dommerars

Then Clapperdogeons in their true abillments, and their true beggerly Rhetoricke they vse in begging.



## The Bel-mans night walkes.

Then will I shew you how they hang together in fraternities, and what Articles of brother hood they are sworn to: with a note (as good as any Rogues marke they carry about them) how to know these Knots of knaves or these Brotherhoods, their names, their Libkins, or Lodgings, their Stawling Kents to which all stolne goods are brought. And lastly to shew you that even in their mirth they are Diuels, you shall heare their true Canting Songs now vsed among them.

In setting down all which hidden villanies, (neuer til this day discovered) you shall find a mixture not only of all those detestable subtilties, vsed in making those sores which eate into their flesh, but also the tricks and medicines they haue (without helpe of Surgeons) to cure them. I will besides (in their descriptions) here and there sticke words and phrases of their gibbish or beggerly language, giuing them the stampe presently of true English, which labour I take of purpose to procure delight to the Reader.

### *Of the Abram his description.*

**T**he Abram Coue, is a lusty strong Rogue, who walketh with a Slade about his Quarrons, a sheet about his body, Trining hanging to his hammes, bande-lære-wise, for all the world as Cut-purses and Thæues weare their sheets to the Gallows, in which their Truls are to bury them: oftentimes (because he scoznes to follow any fashions of Hose) he goes without breeches, a cut Jerkin with hanging sleeves (in imitation of our Gallants) but no Sattin or Chamlet elbowes, for both his legs and armes are bare, hauing no Commission to couer his body, that is to say, no shirt: A face staring like a Sarasin, his haire long & filthily knotted, for he keepes no barber: a good Filch (or staffe) of growen Ash, or else Hæel, in his Fambler (in his hand) and sometimes a sharp stick, on which he hangeth Ruffepecke, Wakon. These walking vp and down the Countrey, are more terrible to women and children, then the name of Raw-head & Bloudy bones, Robin Good-fellow, or any other Hobgoblin. Crackers tyed to the dogs taile make not the pooze Curre runne faster, then these Abram Ninnies doe the illie villages of the Countrey, so that when they come to any dooze a begging, nothing is denied them.

*Their*



*Their Markes.*

**S**ome of these Abrams haue the Letters E. & R. vpon their Armes: some haue Crosse, and some other Marke, all of them carying a blue colour: some wear an yron ring, &c. which marks are printed vpon their flesh, by tying their arme hard with two strings three or foure inches asunder, & then with a sharpe Ayle pricking or raising the skin, to such a figure or print as they best fancie, they rub that place with burnt pepper, pisse, and gunpowder, which being hard rubd in, and suffered to drie, sticks in the flesh a long time after, when these markes faile, they renew them at pleasure. If you examine them how these Letters or Figures are printed vpon their armes, they will tell you it is the marke of Bedlam, but the truth is, they are made as I haue reported.

And to colour his villany the better, euery one of these Abrams hath a seuerall gesture in playing his part: some make an horrid noyse, hollowly sounding: some whoope, some hollo, some shew only a kinde of wild distracted ugly looke, uttering a simple kinde of Mawnding, with these addition of words (well & wisely.) Some dance (but keepe no measure) or others leap vp and downe and fetch Gambals, all their actions shew them to be as drunke as Beggers: for not to bely them what are they but drunken Beggers? All that they beg being either Loure or Bouse (money or drinke.)

*Their Mawnd, or Begging.*

**T**he first begins Good Vriship, Master, or good Vriships Rulers of this place, bestow your reward on a poore man that hath lyen in Bedlā without Bishops-gate three yeres, foure moneths, & nine daies. And bestow one piece of smal siluer towards his fees, which he is indebted there, the summe of three pounds, thirteen shillings, seuen pence, halfe peny, (or to such effect) and hath not wherewith to pay the same, but by the good helpe of Vrishipfull & wel disposed people, & God to reward them for it.

The second begins: Now Dame, well and wisely: what will you giue poore Tom now? one pound of your sheeps feathers to make poore Tom a blanket: or one cutting of your Sow side, no bigger then my arme, or one piece of your Salt meat to make poore Tom a sharing horne: or one crosse of your smal siluer



## The *Bel-mans* night walkes.

towards the buying a paire of Shooes, (well and wisely :) Ah, God blesse my good dame, (wel and wisely) giue poore Tom an old sheete to keep him from the cold, or an old dublet, or Ierkin of my Masters, God saue his life.

Then will he dance and sing, or vse some other Antick, and ridiculous gesture, shutting by his counterseit Puppet-play, with this Epilogue or conclusion, Good Dame giue poore Tom one cup of the best drinke, (well and wisely) God saue the King and his Counsell, and the Gouvernour of this place, &c.

### *Of Counterseit Souldiers.*

**T**hese may well be called Counterseit Souldiers, for not one (scarce) among the whole Army of them, euer discharged so much as a Caliuier: nothing makes them Souldiers but old Mandillions, which they buy at the Brokers. The weapons they carry are short Crab-tree Cudgels, and these, (because they haue the name of Souldiers) neuer march but in troopes two or three in a company: of all sorts of Rogues these are the most impudent and boldest, for they knocke at mens doores, as if they had serious businesse there, whereas the doore being opened to them, they begin this parle.

### *Their Mawnding.*

**G**entle Rulers of this place bestow your reward vpon poore Souldiers, that are vtterly maymed and spoyled in her Maiesties late warres, as well for Gods cause as her Maiesties and yours. And bestow one piece of your small siluer vpon poore men, or somewhat towards a meales meate, to succour them in the way of truth, &c. for Gods cause. These fellowes go commonly hurt in the left arme beneath the elbow (hauing a Lybe Ierked that is to say, a Passe-port sealed) with license to depart the colours, (vnder which if you rightly examine them they neuer fought) yet whersoever the warres are, and how far off soeuer, thus can they wound themselves at home.

### *Their making of their Sores.*

**T**ake vnslaked Lime and Sope, with the rust of old yron: these mingled together, and spzed thick on two pieces of leather which are clapt vpon the arme one against the other: two small pieces of wood (fitted to the purpose) holding the leathers down, all which are bound hard to the arme with a garter:



## Whereunto is added *O per se O.*

garter: which in a few houres fretting the skin with blisters, and being taken off, the flesh wil appeare all raw, then a linnen cloth being applyed to the raw blistered flesh it sticks so fast, that vpon plucking it off it bleeds: which blood (or else some other) is rubd all ouer the arme, by which meanes (after it is well dried on) the arme appeares blacke, & the soze raw & reddish but white about the edges like an old wound: which if they desire to heale, a broken paper with butter and wax being applyed they are cured: and thus (without weapon) do you see how our Mawnding counterfeit Souldiers come maymed.

### *Of placing their Sores.*

**T**he Souldier hath his Soze alwaies on his left arme, (vnesse he be left handed, for then because of the better vse of that hand it is vpon the right) betwixt the elbow and the wrist, and is called by the name of Souldiers Mawnde.

When a soze is placed on the back of the hand, & that he saith he was hurt by an horse, then it is called Foot-mans Mawnd.

When the soze is aboue the elbow, as if it were broken, or hurt by falling from a Scaffold, it is called Masons Mawnd. And thus the altring the place of the soze altereth the Mawnd.

Of these counterfeit Soldiers, some of them being examined will say they were lately Seruing-men, but their Master being dead, and the household dispersed, they are compelled to this basseness of life for want of meanes. Some of them can play the Abram, be mad Toms, or else beg Rum Mawnd (counterfeit to be a Foole) or else that his tongue is tyed and cannot speake, and such like.

### *Of Ben-fakers of Iybes.*

**T**hey who are Counterfeiters of Passeports, are called Ben-fakers that is to say, Wood-fakers: & these makers (like the Duels Hackney-men) lye lurking in euery country, to send his Messengers poste to tell. The best passeports that euer I saw, were made in S. Shire, with the hand of one M. W. subscribed vnto them. There was another, excellent Ben-faker about W. a Towne in G. Shire: in S. dwelt another who tooke two shillings & six pence (two Bords & six winnes) or two Bordes & a Flagge, for euery passeport that went out of his beggerly Office, he counterfeited the Seale of L. D.



## The Bel-mans night-walkes,

Of these Ben-fekers I could say much more, if I would be counted a blabbe: but now the very best of them are made in L. to carrie men from thence vnto III.

### *How to know counterfeite Passe-ports.*

**T**he Seales of Noblemen, Gentlemen, Iustices, or any other who haue authoritie to vse Seales, are grauen in Siluer, Copper, or some hard stufte: & those things which are so grauen seale the Armes or such like with sharp edges, and with a round circle enclosing it, as if it were cut with an instrument of Steele, & it maketh a neate & deep impression: but these counterfeit Ierkes (or seales) are grauen with the point of a knife, vpon a stickes end, whose roundnesse may well be perceiued from the circle of a common turnd seale: these so, the most part bearing the illfaoured shape of a Buhars Nab or a Prancers Nab (a dogs head, or a Horses,) & sometimes an Unicornes, & such like: the counterfet Ierke hauing no Circle about the edges. Besides, in the passe-port you shal lightly find these words, viz. For Salomon saith; Who giueth the poore, lendeth the Lord, &c. And that Constables shal help them to lodgings: And that Curates shal perswade their Parishioners, &c.

Another note is, let them be in what part of the Land soeuer they will, yet haue they an hundred miles to goe at least: euery one of them hauing his Doxie at his heeles. And thus much of Ben-fekers.

### *Of Dommerars.*

**T**he Bel-man tooke his markes amisse in saying that a Dommerer is equall to the Cranke; for of these Dommerers I neuer met but one, & that was at the house of one M. L. of L. This Dommerers name was W. he made a strange noise shewing by fingers acrosse, that his tongue was cut out at Chaik-hill. In his hand he carried a sticke, about a foote in length, & sharpe at both ends, which he would thrust into his mouth, as if he meant to shew the stumpe of his tongue. But in doing so, he did of purpose hit his tongue with the sticke to make it bleed, which filling vp his mouth, you could not for bloud perceiue any tongue at all, because he had turned it vppwards, and with his sticke thrust it into his thzoate. But I caused him to be held fast by the strength of men, untill such time



time that opening his teeth with the end of a small cudgell, I pluckt forth his tongue, and made him speake.

*Of Clapperdungeons.*

**A** Clapperdungeon is in English a Begger bozne: some call him a Pallyard: of which sorts there are two: first, Naturall: secondly, Artificiall. This fellow (aboue all other that are in the Regiment of Rogues) goeth best armed against the crueltie of winter: he should be wise, for he loues to keep himselfe warme, wearing a patched Castor (a Cloake) for his upper Robe: vnder that a Togmans (a Colone with high Stammers (hooes) the soles an inch thick pegged, or else patches at his Girdle ready to clap on: a great Scue (a browne dish) hanging at his girdle, and a tassel of Thymes to wipe it. A brace of greasie Night-caps on his head, and ouer them (lest he should catch a knauish colde) a hat (or Nabcheate) a good Filch (or staffe) in his hand, hauing a little yron pegge in the end of it: a Bugher (a little Dogge, following him, with a smugge Doxie, attyred fit for such a Roguish Companion. At her back she carrieth a great packe, couered with a patched saueguard vnder which she conueieth all such things as she filcheth: her skill sometimes is to tell Fortunes, to helpe the diseases of women and Childzen. As she walkes, she makes bals or shirt strings, (but now commonly they knit) and weares in her hat a needle with a thread at it. An excellent Angler she is: for when her Coue Mawnds at any doore, if any Poultrie-ware be picking vp their crummes neere them, she feedeth them with bread, & hath a thread tyed to a hooked pin, baited for the nonce which the Chikin swallowing is chaked, & conueyed vnder the Castor: Chickins, linnen or wollen, or any thing that is worth the catching, comes into her net.

Vnder this Wanner of the patched Clapperdungeon, doe I leuie all Pallyards, as well those of the great Cleyne, or sozes, as others, whom I tearme Artificiall Clapperdungeons, albeit they are not Beggers bozne.

*Of their Mawnd.*

**T**his Pallyard (or Artificiall Clapperdungeon, who carrieth about him the great Cleyne) to stirre compassion in peoples hearts, thus acteth his part: he slides to the earth by his



## The Bel-mans night-walkes,

his staffe, & lying pitifully on the ground, makes a fearefull horrid strange noyse, through an hoarse throte uttering these lamentable tunes : Ah the Vrschip of God looke out with your mercifull eyne, one pittifull looke vpon sore, lame, griued and impudent (for impotent) people, sore troubled with the grievous disease, & haue no rest day nor night by the Canker and worme that continually eateth the flesh from the bone : for the Vrschip of God bestow one crosse of your smal siluer, to buy him salue & oyntment, to ease the poore wretched bodie, that neuer taketh rest : & God to reward you for it in heauen. These Pallyards walk two or three together, & as one giues ouer his note, the second catcheth it at the rebound, vsing the selfe same howling & grunting, which ended, they say the Lords Prayer & in many places the Aue, neuer ceasing till something be giuen them.

*How they make their great Sores, called the great Cleyme.*

**T**hey take Crow-foote, Sperewort, and Salt, & brusing these together, they lay them vpon the place of the bodie which they desire to make sore : the skin by this meanes being fretted, they first clap a linnen cloth, till it sticke fast, which plucked off, the rawe flesh hath Kats-bane throwne vpon it, to make it looke vgly : & then cast ouer that a cloth, which is alwayes bloody & filthy, which they doe so often, that in the end in this hurt they feele no paine, neither desire they to haue it healed, but with their Doxies wil trauel (for al their great Cleymes) from faire to faire, & from Market to Market being able by their Mawnding to get five Bordes (that is five Shillings) in a weeke, in money and Cozne. which money they hide vnder blue and greene patches : so that sometimes they haue about them, five pound or seven pound together.

The Clapperdogons that haue not the great Cleyme, are called Farmarly Beggars.

*Of their Fraternities.*

**T**here is no lustie Kogue, but hath many both swozne Brothers, and the Moits his swozne Sisters : who both for their selues bodie and soule to the Diuel to performe these ten Articles following, viz.

*Articles of their Fraternities.*

**T**hou shalt my true Brother be, keeping thy faith to thy other Brothgers (as to my selfe, if any such thou haue.

Thou



Whereunto is added *O per se O.*

2. Thou shalt keepe my counsell, and all other my bꝛothers, being knowne to thee.

3. Thou shalt take part with me, and all other my bꝛothers in all matters.

4. Thou shalt not heare me ill spoken of without reuenge to thy power.

5. Thou shalt see me want nothing, to which thou canst helpe me.

6. Thou shalt giue me part of all thy winnings whatsoeuer.

7. Thou shalt not but keepe true pointments with me for meetings, be it by day or night, at what place so euer.

8. Thou shalt teach no householder to Cant, neither confesse any thing to them, be it neuer so true, but deny the same with oathes.

9. Thou shalt doe no hurt to any Mawnder, but with thine owne hands: and thou shalt forbear none that disclose these secrets.

10. Thou shalt take cloathes, Hens, Geese, Pigg, Bacon, & such like for thy winnings, where euer thou canst haue them.

*How to know their Brother-hoods.*

**V**hen at the end of a Towne, wherein a Fayre or Market is kept, you see an assembly of them together chiding and bꝛawling, but not fighting, then those Coues are sworn bꝛothers. If likewise two Doxies fall together by the eares, whilst the Rogues themselves stand by and fight not, that also is a Bꝛother-hood: for it is one branch of their Lawes to take part with their Doxies in any wrong.

*Of their Names.*

**E**very one of them hath a peculiar Pick-name, proper to himselfe, by the which he is more known, more enquired after by his bꝛothers, and in common familiarity more saluted, then by his owne true name: yea, the false is vsed so much, that the true is forgotten. And of these Picknames, some are giuen to them for some speciall cause: as Olli Compolli, is the Wy name of some one principall Rogue amongst them, being an Abram, being bestowed vpon him, because by that he is knowne to be the head, or chiefe amongst them: In like manner these Sir-names following belong to other Bꝛand Sigs-



## The Bel-mans night walkes.

niozs and Commanders, viz. Dimber Damber, & Hurley Burly, Generall Nurse, The High Shriue, The Constable, and such like: and some Pick-names are either vpon mockery, or vpon pleasure giuen vnto them: as The great Bull, The litle Bull, and many other such like. The great Bull is some one notable lustie Rogue, who gets away all their wenches: for this great Bull (by report) had in one yeere, thre and twenty Doxies, (his Jocky was so lusty) such liberty haue they in sinning, & such damnable & most detestable maner of life doe they leade.

As the men haue Pick-names, so likewise haue the women: for some of them are called, The white Ewe, The Lambe. &c. And (as I haue heard) there was an Abram, who called his Mort, Madam Wap-apace.

### *Of their Libkins or Lodgings.*

**A**S these fugitiue Wagabonds haue Pick-names to themselves, so haue the Libkins, or Lodgings, and places of meeting: as one of the meeting places (as I haue heard) being a Sheepe-coate, is by the Quest of Rogues who nightly assemble there, called by the name of Stophole Abby: so likewise another of their Lodgings is called by the same name. Then haue others: as the blew Bull, the Brancer, the Bulls belly, the Cowes bodder, the greene Arbour, the blazing Starre, &c. Such like By names giue they also to their Strawling Kennes: and note this, that after a robbery done, they lye not without twelue miles at the least of the place where they doe it, but hauing eaten by their stolne mutton (baked as aforesaide) (away they frudge through thicke and thinne, all the hauens of hell into which they put in, being alwayes for the most part of an equall distance one from another: for looke how farre as the one Stophole Abbey stands from the other, and iust so farre is the Bulls belly from the Cowes bodder, and so of the rest: so that what way soeuer these night-Spirits doe take, after they haue done their deedes of Darknes, they know what pace to keepe, because (what stormes soeuer fall) they are sure of harbour, all their iourneys being but of one length. Yet dare they not but let their Morts and their Doxies meete them at some of these places, because how cold soeuer the weather be, their Female furies come hotely &



finocking from thence, carrying about them Glymmar in the Prat (fire in the touch-boxe) by whose flashes oftentimes there is Glymmar in the locky (the flaske is blowne by too) of which dangerous and deadly skirminthes the fault is laide upon Seruing-men, dwelling thereabout, who like Free-boters are so hungry of flesh, that a Doxie (if she haue a smug face) cannot peepe out, but she is taken for Hawkes-meate. And it is no wonder, there is such stealing of those wilde Buckes, because there is such store of them: nor is it a maruel there is such store, sithence he is not held woorthy to walke, or to be counted one of the foure and twentie Orders, but to be banished (as a silly Animall and a stinkard) from all good fellowship, societie, and meetings at Faires, Markets, and merry Bowling Kennes, who when the Trumpet sounds, (that is to say, when the Cuckoe sings) thrusts not out his head like a Snaile out of his shell, and walkes not abroad about the Deuile-vile (the Countrey) with his spirit of Lecherie and theeuing, (his Doxie) at his heeles.

*Why the Staffe is called a Filch.*

**T**Hus much for their Fraternities, Paines, Lodgings, and Assembles, at all which times euery one of them carries a short staffe in his hand, which is called a Filch, hauing in the Nab or head of it, a Ferme (that is to say, a hole) into which vpon any piece of seruite, when hee goes a Filching, he putteth a hooke of yron, with which hooke hee angles at a window in the dead of night, for shirts, smockes, or any other linnen or woollen: and for that reason is the staffe termed a Filch. So that it is as certaine that hee is an Angler for Duds, who hath a Ferme in the Nab of his Filch, as that he is a theefe, who vpon the high-way cries stand, and takes a purse. This Staffe serueth to more bles, then either the Crosse-staffe, or the Iacobs, but the bles are not so good nor so honest: for this Filching staffe being artificially handled, is able now and then to mill a Granter, a bleating Cheate, a Red-shanke, a Tib of the Buttery, and such like, or to Fib a Couer Quarrons in the Rome pad, for his Loure in his bung that is to say, to kill a Pigge, a Sheepe, a Ducke, a Goose, and such like, or to beate a man by the high way for the money in his purse.



## The *Bel-mans* night walkes.

And yet for all these base villanies and others, of what blacknesse soeuer they be, you shall at euery Assises and Sessions, see swarmes of them boldly venturing amongst the Prisoners: one cause of their tempting their own danger so, is, that being sworne brothers in league, and partners in one and the same the euery, it behoues them to listen to the prisoners confession (which they doe secretly, and so to take their heeles, if they spy a storme coming. Another cause is, to learne what limetwigs caught the Bird i<sup>th</sup> Cage, and how hee was entangled by the Justice in his examination, that thereby he abroad may shun the like: but the Diuel is their Tutor, Hell their Schoole, Treuery, Roguery and Whoredome: the Arts they study, before Doctor Story they dispute and at the Gallows are made Graduates of Pelagate & other Jayles (the Hangmans Colledges.) To shut vp this feast merrily, (as sweet meates are best last, your last dish which I set before you, to digest the hardnesse of the rest is a Canting Song, not fained or composed as those of the *Bel-mans* were out of his owne braine, but by the Canters themselues, and sung at their meetings.

### *The Canting Song.*

1. **B**ing out bien Morts, and toure, and toure,  
bing out bien Morts and toure:

For all your Duds are bingd awast,  
the bien Coue hath the loure.

2. I met a Dell, I viewde her well;  
she was benship to my watch:

So she and I, did stall and cloy,  
what euer we could catch.

3. This Doxie dell, can cut bien whids,  
and wap well for a win:

And prig and cloy so benshiply,  
all the Dewse-auile within.

4. The boyle was vp, we had good lucke,  
in frost, for and in snow:

When they did seeke, then we did creepe,  
and plant in ruffe-mans low.

5. To Strawling Ken, the Mort bings then,  
to fetch lowre for her cheates:



Whereunto is added *O per se O.*

Duds and Ruffe-peek, rumbol'd by Harman beck,  
and won by Mawnders feates.

6. You mawnders all, stow what you stall,  
to Rome-coues what so quire :

And wapping Dell, that niggles well,  
and takes loure for her hire.

7 And I, be well Ierkt, tick rome confect,  
for backe by glymmar to Maund :

To mill each Ken, let coue bing then,  
through ruffe-mans lague or laund.

8. Till cramprings Quire, tip coue his hire,  
and Quier kens doe them catch :

A canniken ; mill Quier cussen,  
so quier to ben coues watch.

9. Bien darkmans then, bouse, mort and ken,  
the bien coues bingd a wast :

On chates to trine, by Rome-coues dine,  
for his long lib at last.

10. Bingd out bien morts and toure,  
bing out of the Rome-vile :

And toure the coue, that cloyde your duds,  
vpon the chates to trine.

*Thus for satisfaction of the Reader, Englished.*

1 **G**o forth (braue girles) look out look out,  
looke out I say (good Conrtes)

For all your clothes are stolne (I doubt)  
mad thauers share the monies.

2. I met a drab, I lik't her well,  
(my bowles did fit her alley :)

We both did vow to rob pell-mell,  
and so abroad did sally.

3. This bolwncing Trull can rarely talke,  
a penny will make her-- :

Thzough any towne which she doth walke,  
nought can her filching scape.

4. The house being rais'd, aside we step,  
and thzough the mire did wade :

To auoid Hue and Cry, to a hedge we crept,



The *Bel-mans* night-walkes,

and under it close were laide.

5. To the *Bzokers* then my hedge-bird flies,  
for stolne goods bringing coyne :

Which (though the Constable after lyes)  
our trickes alway purloynes.

6. You mawnding rogues, how you steale beware,  
for priue search is made:

Take heede thou to, (thou hackey mare)  
who nere art ridden, but paid.

7. A Licence got with counterfeited Seale,  
to beg (as if undone:

By fire) to breake each house, and steale,  
ore hedge and ditch, then runne.

8. Till Shackels soundly pay vs home,  
and to the Mayle compell vs:

Hels plague the Justice heart consume,  
so cruell to good fellows.

9. Sweete Dunke, beere-house, & beere goodnight,  
the honest Rogue's departed:

To hanging, (by the Justice spite)  
to his long home hee's carted.

10. Away sweete Duckes, with greedy eyes,  
from London walke by Holborne:

Sue him who stole your clothes: he flies,  
with hempen wings to Tyborne.

*Another.*

1. **D** Oxie oh! thy Glaziers shine,  
as Glymmer; by the Salomon:

No Gentry Mort hath Prats like thine,  
no Dell ere Wap'd with such a one.

2. White thy Fambles, red thy Gan,  
and thy Quarrens daintie is:

Couch a Hogs-head with me than,  
in the Dark-mans clip and kisse.

3. What though I no Caster weare,  
nor commission, no, nor Slate,

Store of Strommell wee le haue here,  
and ith Skipper Lib in state.



4. Niggling thou (I know) doest loue,  
else the Ruffin cly thee Mort:  
From thy stampers then remoue,  
Thy Drawers and lets prig in sport.
5. When the Lightmans vp does call,  
Margery Prater from the nest:  
And her cackling cheate withall,  
in a Bowfing Ken wee le feast.
6. There (if Loue we want) Ile Mill,  
a Gage, or Nip for thee a Bounge:  
Ben. Bowse thou shalt Bowse thy fill,  
and crash a grunting cheate thats young.
7. Bing a wast to Rome-vile then,  
(O my Doxie, O my Dell):  
Wee le heaue a Booth, and Dock agen,  
and Tryning scape, and all his well.

*Another.*

1. **N**ow my Kinchin coue is gone,  
by the Rome-Pad Maundred none:  
In Quarrons both for stampes and bone,  
like my clapperdageon.
2. Dimber Damber fare thee well,  
Palliards all thou didst excell:  
And thy Iocky bare the bell,  
Glymmer on it neuer fell.
3. Thou the cramp-rings nere didst scowre,  
Harmans had on thee no power:  
Harman-Becks did neuer Towre,  
for thee, tho Drawers still had Loue.
4. Duds and Cheates thou oft hast wonne,  
yet the Cuffin Quire coulds shunne:  
And thy Deuse-a-vile didst runne,  
else the Chares had thee vndone.
5. Cranke and Dommerar thou couldst play,  
or Rum Mawnder in one day:  
And like an Abram coue couldst pray,  
yet passe with Iybes (well Ierk'd away).
6. When the Dark-mans haue beene wet,



The Bel-mans night-walkes,

thou the crack-mans downe didst beate,  
For Glymmar whilst a quacking chete,  
or Tib ath' Buttery was our meate.

7. Red-shankes then I could not lacke,  
Ruffe-peck still hung at my backe;

Grannam euer fill'd my sacke :  
with Lap and Popplars held I tacke.

8. To thy Bugar and thy skew,  
Filch and Iybes I bid adue:

Though thy Togeman were not new,  
yet the Ruffler in't was true.

*Another.*

1. **A** Quire coue of the Deuf-vile,  
did Dock a Dell in Turucy:  
He gaue her cheates, and Duds, and Loure,  
but his Niggling was but scuruy,  
yet would he Wap,  
with a Mort with a Dell,  
with an Autem Mort, with a Doxy,  
And not Bing a wast fro the Bowsing Ken,  
till his Nab-chere all were Foxy.

2. Thus cufsin getting Glymmer,  
i'th Prat, so cleymd his Iocky:  
The Nab was Quire, the Bube him nip'd,  
his Quarrons all was Pocky,  
yet would he Wap,  
with a Mort, with a Dell,  
with an Autem Mort, with a Doxy,  
And not Bing a wast fro the Bowsing Ken,  
till his Nab-cheate well were Foxy.

Enough of this, and he that desires more pieces of such  
Pedlary ware may out of this little packe, fit  
himselfe with any colours.

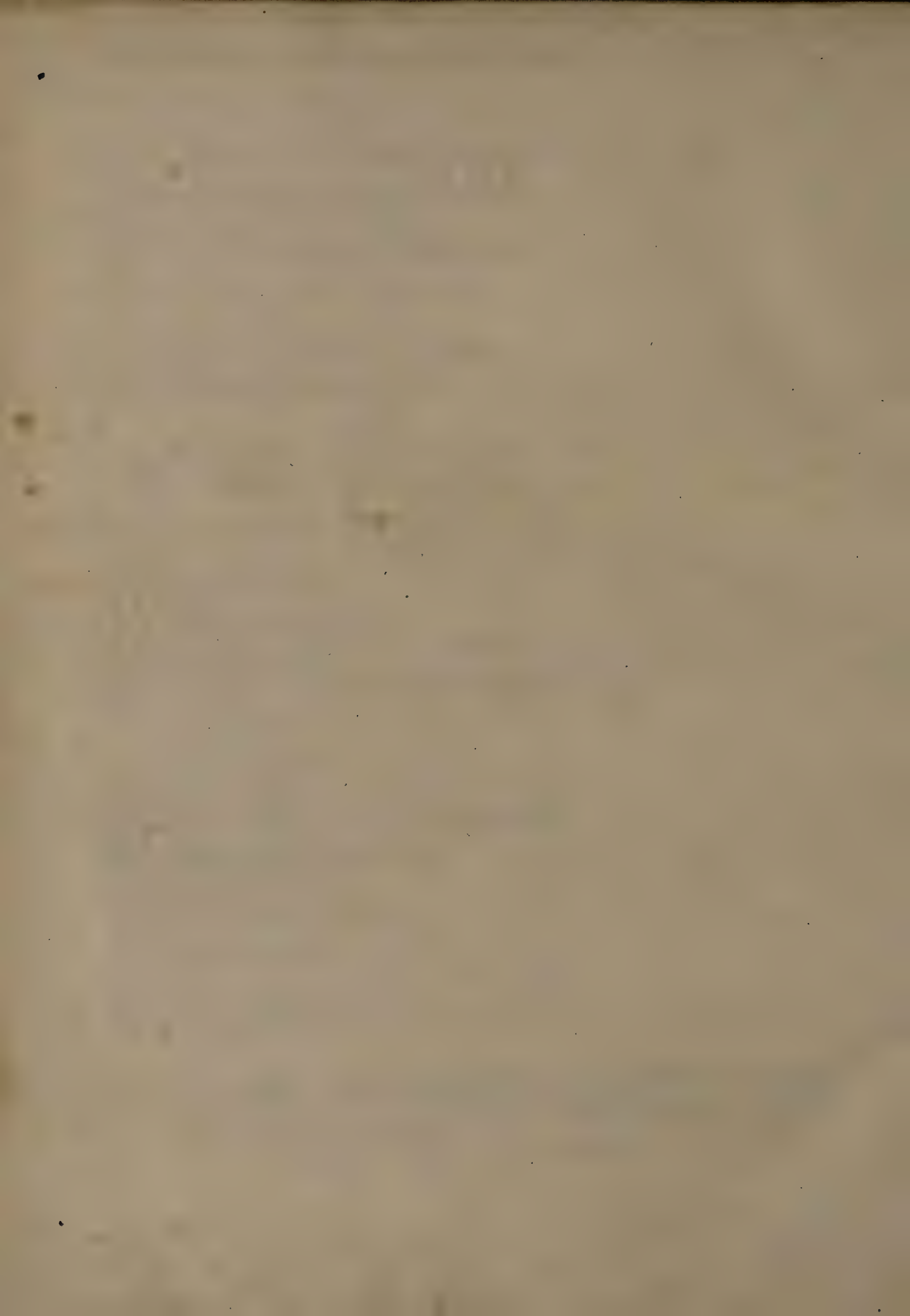
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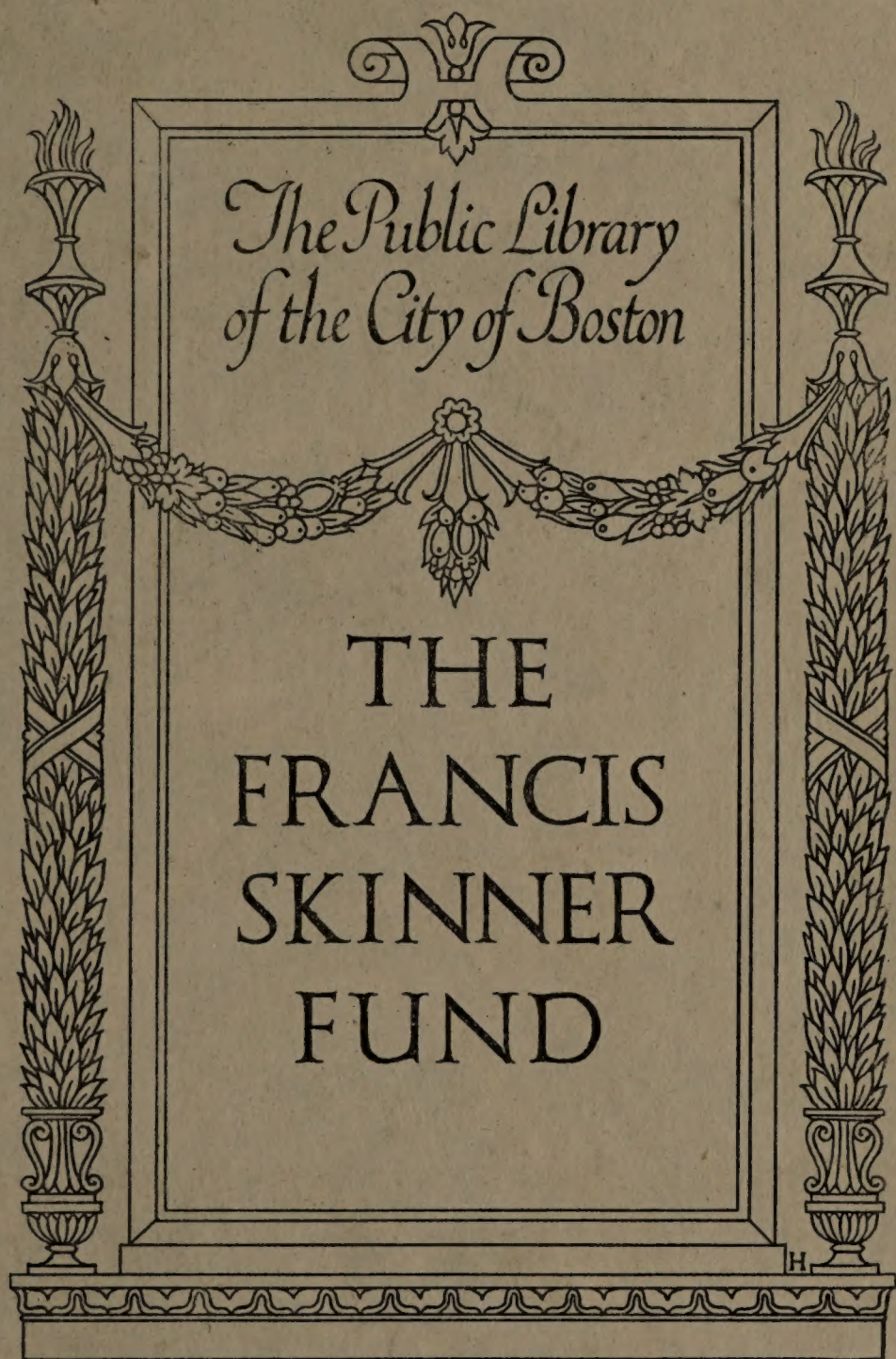
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